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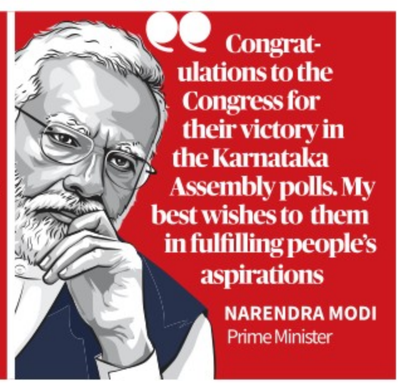
Verdicts elsewhere

The table lists the results of the constituencies that went for byelections. Meghalaya's Sohiong had a deferred Assembly election.

State	Seat name	Seat type	Winning party	Vote share
Punjab	Jalandhar	Lok Sabha	AAP	34.05%
Odisha	Jharsuguda	Assembly	BJD	60.93%
U.P.	Chhanbey	Assembly	Apna Dal (S)	46.7%
U.P.	Suar	Assembly	Apna Dal (S)	50.81%
Meghalaya	Sohiong	Assembly (deferred)	UDP	51.9%

In Karnataka, 'nafrat ka bazaar' (market of hate) has closed down' and 'mohabbat ki dukaanein' (shops of love) have opened
RAHUL GANDHI
Cong. leader


Congratulations to the Congress for their victory in the Karnataka Assembly polls. My best wishes to them in fulfilling people's aspirations
NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister

Congress surge topples BJP in Karnataka

- Congress improves tally from 80 in 2018 to 135 in 224-seat Assembly
- Focus on corruption issues, free power, income support pays off
- BJP's strength declines to 66 against 104 seats it won in 2018
- JD(S) that was banking on a hung House bites the dust with 19 seats

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU

Sending out a clear signal for change, Karnataka voters have defeated the incumbent Bharatiya Janata Party and given the Congress an unambiguous mandate, with 135 seats in the 224-member Legislative Assembly.

The acid test for the Congress will now be to choose a Chief Minister, with both Leader of the Opposition and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee president D.K. Shivakumar publicly jockeying for the post in the run-up to the election.

In the results declared on Saturday of the election held on May 10, the Congress improved its tally from the 80 seats it won in 2018, powering to 135 seats on the back of a robust unified campaign promising free rice, power and income support, and building a case against the BJP based on local issues of corruption and governance.

In contrast, the BJP largely flagged a "double-engine" government's benefits and used polarising communal rhetoric during its much-advertised campaign led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Many of its senior Ministers were also swept out of their seats by the Congress wave.

This result continues Karnataka's record of not re-electing incumbent governments.

The defeat of the BJP in the only south Indian State where it had managed to establish a strong presence marks a stunning setback for a party that has tried hard to grow beyond the Hindi heartland.

While the BJP's seats declined sharply to 66 against 104 in 2018, the H.D. Kumaraswamy-led Janata Dal(S) – which was counting on a hung Assembly to revive its fortunes – slid to the sidelines with just 19 seats, against 37 in 2018. The decline of 18 seats, largely came in the old Mysore region, seen as a JD(S) stronghold.

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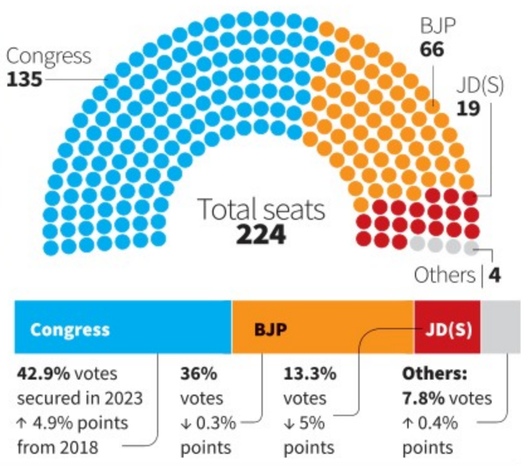
MORE REPORTS » PAGES 2, 5, 6, 7, 11 & 12

Hand in hand: Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, with party leaders Siddaramaiah, and D. K. Shivakumar, during a press conference after election results were out on Saturday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Results at a glance

Congress achieved a resounding victory over the BJP in the 2023 Karnataka Assembly election

The charts show leads/wins by parties and their vote shares



Congress
BJP
JD(S)
42.9% votes secured in 2023 ↑ 4.9% points from 2018
36% votes ↓ 0.3% points
13.3% votes ↓ 5% points
Others: 7.8% votes ↑ 0.4% points

Data as of 12.25 A.M.

Cong. to meet today to discuss next step

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The MLAs-elect of the Congress will meet in Bengaluru at 5.30 p.m. on Sunday. The meeting of the Congress Legislature Party would discuss government formation, said sources in the party.

The leaders are likely to elicit views of the MLAs-elect on the chief ministerial candidate, a key question the party has to wrestle with.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said the victory had brought new energy among the cadre and south India had become "BJP-*mukt* [free]".

In a tweet, former CM Siddaramaiah said: "Bharat Jodo Yatra, led by Rahul Gandhi, united the people of Karnataka & spread the idea of peace & harmony – an important factor that put our party in the path of victory".

NEARBY

High drama in Jayanagar as BJP wins by 16 votes

BENGALURU
After what seemed to be an unending counting and examination of votes, BJP candidate C.K. Ramamurthy was declared the winner from Jayanagar constituency against Congress's incumbent MLA Sowmya Reddy by a slim margin of 16 votes. » Page 2

Worst showing by JD(S) in 2 decades

BENGALURU
JD(S), in its worst performance in nearly two decades, not only has it ceded seats to Congress in this election, but now stares at a bigger threat as the BJP has made inroads into its traditional pockets. » Page 6

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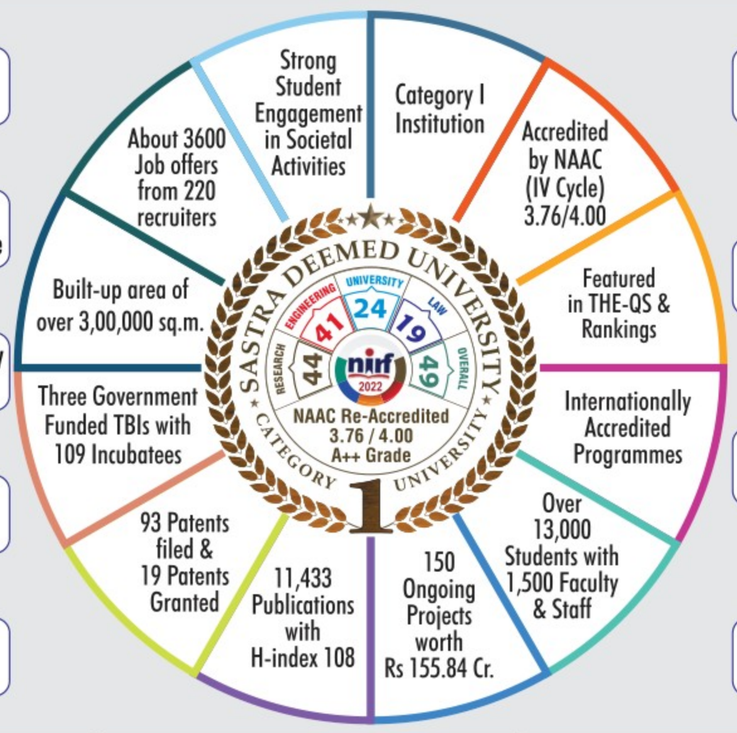
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Elegy in white: Karbi boys and girls in traditional dress perform a ceremonial dance during the *Chomangkan* ceremony in Borgaon village, Karbi Anglong district of Assam.

Songs for the soul

The Karbi tribe of Assam observes the distinctive practice of *Chomangkan*, a ceremony to remember the dead that lasts four days and nights

Ritu Raj Konwar
rituraj.k@thehindu.co.in

The Karbi people make up one of the major tribes of Assam, with most of them living in Karbi Anglong district.

They are expert weavers and practise *jhum* (slash and burn) cultivation in the hills.

But their most distinctive practice is an elaborate death ceremony, called *Chomangkan*. While the funeral ceremony is performed at the time of cremation, a unique festival is held at a later date as a remembrance for the departed.

Karbis believe in the immortality of the soul, the afterlife and rebirth. It is believed that unless the spirits of the dead are sanctified with the rituals of *Chomangkan*, they do not get peace.

Among the most elaborate and expensive of ceremonies of the Karbis, *Chomangkan* lasts for four days and nights.

Professional mourners, called *lunsepi*, render sorrowful songs. Their tunes of lamentation go on for hours, with only short breaks in between.

No one is formally invited to the ceremony but all are welcome. In spite of the sad undertones, *Chomangkan* is an important occasion for families to welcome guests with great warmth. People come in batches, and everyone carries ceremonial totems. At the top of the main totem, there is a wooden *vo-jaru* (racket-tailed drongo). This extraordinary woodcraft – a symbolical representation of the tribe standing for clan unity – is called *jambeli athon*.

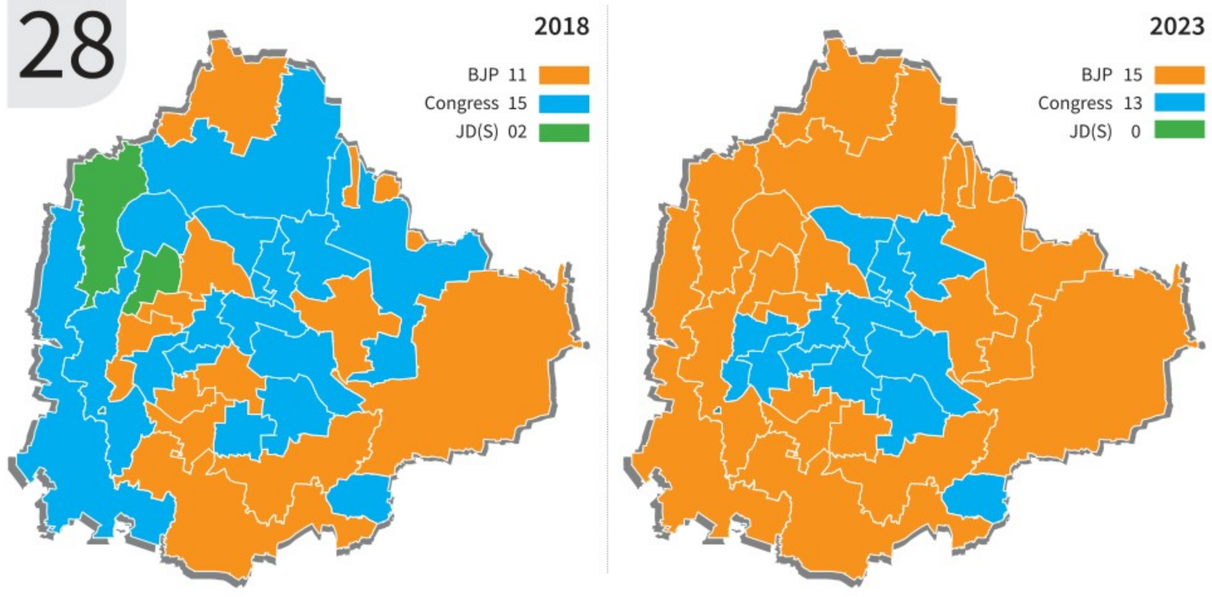
Songs of lamentation: Professional mourners called *lunsepi* sing for the peace and the safe passage of the souls of the departed.

A time for sorrow: The *lunsepi* can sing for hours on end, taking only short breaks between songs rich with pathos.

Shoulder to shoulder: The Phangcho family carries a symbolic bier as part of the ritual.

HOW BENGALURU VOTED

Total seats 28



Constituency	Winner	Party	Margin
Anekal	B. Shivanna	Cong.	31,325
BTM Layout	Ramalinga Reddy	Cong.	9,222
Bangalore South	M Krishnappa	BJP	49,699
Basavanagudi	Ravi Subramanya L.A.	BJP	54,978
Bommanahalli	Sathish Reddy M.	BJP	24,215
Byatarayanapura	Krishna Byre Gowda	Cong.	38,204
C. V. Raman Nagar	S. Raghu	BJP	16,395
Chamarajpet	B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan	Cong.	53,953
Chickpet	Uday B. Garudachar	BJP	12,113
Dasarahalli	S. Muniraju	BJP	9,194
Gandhinagar	Dinesh Gundu Rao	Cong.	105
Govindarajnagar	Priya Krishna	Cong.	12,516
Hebbal	Suresh B.S.	Cong.	30,754
Jayanagar	C. K. Ramamurthy	BJP	16
K.R. Puram	B.A. Basavaraj	BJP	24,301
Mahadevapura	Manjula S.	BJP	44,501
Mahalakshmi Layout	K. Gopalaiah	BJP	51,165
Malleswaram	C.N. Ashwath Narayan	BJP	41,302
Padmanabhanagar	R. Ashok	BJP	55,175
Pulikeshinagar	A.C. Srinivasa	Cong.	62,210
Rajajinagar	S. Suresh Kumar	BJP	8,060
R.R. Nagar	Munirathna	BJP	11,842
Sarvangnanagar	K.J. George	Cong.	55,768
Shantinagar	N.A. Haris	Cong.	7,125
Shivajinagar	Rizwan Arshad	Cong.	23,194
Vijayanagar	M. Krishnappa	Cong.	7,324
Yelahanka	S.R. Vishwanath	BJP	63,378
Yeshwantpur	S.T. Somashekar	BJP	15,118

State votes for change, but Bengaluru bucks the trend

Most incumbent MLAs irrespective of party win as city continues tradition of re-voting candidates

K.C. Deepika
Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

As the 2023 State Assembly elections threw up some big upsets and victories, capital city Bengaluru failed to throw up any major surprises. Continuing its tradition of re-voting incumbents, the city voted back to power a majority of the candidates across the 28 assembly constituencies.

In Bengaluru, BJP won 16 constituencies, while the Congress won 12 constituencies.

The regional party JD(S) was wiped out in Bengaluru after it lost its only seat in Dasarahalli, which was represented by R. Manjunatha. He lost to S. Muniraju of the BJP, who had earlier won from the constituency in 2008 and 2013.

Among those who maintained a winning track record - some from before delimitation too - is senior Congress leader Ramalinga Reddy, who won from BTM Layout again. He now has eight record wins - he has been undefeated since 1989 from Jayanagar and BTM Layout.

Congress leader K.J. George, who has five victories to his credit from Bharathinagar and Sarvagnanagar, won for the sixth time from Sarvagnanagar. Gandhinagar MLA Dinesh Gundu Rao won for the sixth time, even though with a narrow margin, while Byatarayanapura MLA Krishna Byre Gowda too won for the sixth time, and from the same constituency since 2008.

A.C. Srinivas, Congress MLA, celebrating after the results of the Assembly elections were announced, in Bengaluru on Saturday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Multiple-time winners

- Senior Congress leader Ramalinga Reddy has won a record eight times, undefeated since 1989 from Jayanagar and BTM Layout
- Congress leader K.J. George, who has five victories to his credit from Bharathinagar and Sarvagnanagar, has won for the sixth time from Sarvagnanagar
- Gandhinagar MLA Dinesh Gundu Rao, Byatarayanapura MLA Krishna Byre Gowda, and Rajajinagar MLA S. Suresh Kumar have won six times
- S. Raghu registered his fifth win as a city MLA, four times from C.V. Raman Nagar and once before from Shantinagar
- Chamarajpet MLA B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan has registered his fifth victory

From the BJP, Rajajinagar MLA S. Suresh Kumar too has five wins to his credit, before registering his sixth this year though off to a shaky start during the counting. S. Raghu registered his fifth win as a city MLA, four times from CV Raman Nagar and once before from Shantinagar.

Chamarajpet MLA B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan also registered his fifth victory, successfully fending off a new challenger - former top cop Bhaskar Rao from the BJP by 53,953 votes.

Mr. Raghu said that though pained by the overall results, he was proud of a fifth win as it does not come easy. Mr. George and Mr. Raghu also credited their party workers and supporters and voters for their victory.

The big indirect upset among the lot is for V. Somanna, who had fought on ticket from multiple parties and on his own and won five times, the last time from Govindaraj Nagar. In this election, he was part of the big gamble that the BJP took along with another senior leader R. Ashoka by pitching them against the Congress's Siddaramaiah in Varuna and D.K. Shivakumar in Kanakapura, respectively. The gamble failed to pay off and Mr. Somanna ended up losing both seats from where he was contesting, the other one being Chamarajanagar.

As has been the case, neither the COVID-19 crisis, nor flooding during heavy rains in 2022 and potholes, appear to have had an impact on the election results. In fact, the flooding, which majorly affected areas in two constituencies - K.R. Puram and Mahadevapura - have re-elected Byrathi Basavaraj in the former, and elected S. Manjula from the latter. Incidentally, she is the wife of incumbent MLA Arvind Limbavali, who won thrice but was denied ticket this time.

Citizen activist Srinivas Alavilli said anyone who follows Bengaluru politics will not be surprised by the results. "Most of our city MLAs made winning a habit by building trust among voters by addressing civic matters and creating loyal vote banks that deliver beyond party affiliation. Unfortunately, our city MLAs barely used their legislative powers to work as a team to bring systemic reforms to the city in terms of planning, coordination, and governance," he said.

"They have seen the city grow during their tenures, but did not do enough to protect our green cover, create affordable housing, or improve public education. I hope in the next five years, we will see the MLAs work together on a mission mode as elected representatives of this great city to make it better for all regardless of socio-economic background," he said.

Fierce fight in four constituencies

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

The run-up to the election results in four constituencies – Rajarajeswarinagar, Rajajinagar, Gandhinagar, and Jayanagar – in Bengaluru kept citizens and parties on tenterhooks.

The Congress won in Gandhinagar, while BJP candidates won in Rajajinagar, Rajarajeswarinagar, and Jayanagar constituencies. In Jayanagar, BJP candidate C.K. Ramamurthy was declared as the winner against Congress's incumbent MLA Sowmya Reddy by 16 votes.

In Gandhinagar, the incumbent Dinesh Gundu Rao won by a narrow margin of 105 votes against the BJP's A.R. Saptagiri Gowda. From the first round of counting, Mr. Gowda gave fierce competition to Mr. Rao. However, in the eighth round, Mr. Rao took the lead with 3,471 votes. Finally, he got 54,118 votes while Mr. Gowda got 54,013 votes.

There was neck-to-neck fight between BJP's Suresh Kumar and Congress's Puttanna for Rajajinagar. In the fifth round, Mr. Puttanna got a lead with 510 votes, but Mr. Suresh Kumar led by 601 votes in the seventh round. Finally, Mr. Suresh Kumar won by a margin of 8,060 votes.

In Rajarajeswarinagar, there was fierce fight between BJP candidate and incumbent MLA Muniratna and H. Kusuma of the Congress. Mr. Muniratna was leading from the first round, but Ms. Kusuma went ahead from the 14th to 25th rounds. However, she suffered setbacks in the last five rounds. Finally, Mr. Muniratna won by a margin of 11,842.

High drama at counting centre in Jayanagar as BJP wins by 16 votes

A disappointed Sowmya Reddy leaving after she lost in recounting for Jayanagar constituency at SSMRV college on Saturday night; (right) BJP candidate C.K. Ramamurthy celebrating his victory. SUDHAKARA JAIN

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After what seemed to be an unending counting and examination of votes, BJP candidate C.K. Ramamurthy was declared the winner from Jayanagar constituency against Congress's incumbent MLA Sowmya Reddy by a slim margin of 16 votes.

Although the counting process began in the morning, the result for the constituency was only declared by midnight as major drama unfurled during the evening at SSMRV PU College where the votes were being counted.

According to sources, Ms. Reddy won by a margin of 160 votes at the end of all the rounds of counting. However, later, BJP leaders, especially Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya and Padmanabhanagar MLA R. Ashok, took objection to 177 postal ballot votes which were rejected due to technical reasons. As the confusion continued, Chief Commissioner, BBMP, Tushar Giri Nath reached the counting centre for further probe.

"Later, after many officials and others met on the spot, they counted the 177 postal ballots which were previously rejected. That is how BJP was declared as a winner by a margin of 16 votes," sources said.

Prior to the late night development, it was being reported from the counting centre that there had been several rounds of recounting of votes. This led to some confusion among members of both the parties. By night, heavyweights from both the BJP and the Congress, including D.K. Shivakumar and D.K. Suresh gathered near the counting centre.

According to police sources, the Congress leaders were prevented from entering the centre as they feared that it would create more tension in an already chaotic situation. After being stopped, the leaders tried to forcibly open the gates, which resulted in a commotion. They then went on to stage a protest near the counting centre condemning the entry of Mr. Surya and Mr. Ashok into the centre.

Later in the night, after the results were declared, Ms. Reddy was seen leaving the premises of the counting centre in tears.

Sources said Ms. Reddy will legally challenge the RO's decision to count the 177 postal ballots that were initially rejected.

A govt. with a clear mandate will be more effective, say trade bodies

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Trade bodies that represent MSMEs and other businesses in Karnataka have unanimously said that a government that comes with a clear mandate will be more effective and supportive to people and trade in the State.

Industry bodies comprising FKCCI, Kassia, and BCIC, have also congratulated the Congress for its huge victory and promised that they would work closely with the new government in furthering the State's economic progress and prosperity.

The people of Karnataka have voted resoundingly for better infrastructure and more efficient and cleaner administration and in fact, it is a historic result because the State has not given a decisive mandate for any party in the past 10 years, opined KASSIA president K.N. Narasimha Murthy.

"We are hopeful that the new government will give the topmost priority to improve infrastructure especially in Bengaluru and make Karnataka a model State for investors at the ground level," Mr. Murthy added.

Continued support

Ravindran L., president, Bangalore Chamber of Industry & Commerce, anticipated that Karnataka would continue to support the industry and introduce investor-friendly policies that would help generate more jobs. "We congratulate the newly elected government and look forward to closely working with it in furthering our State's progress and prosperity. BCIC will support the government in all its initiatives," said Dr. Ravindran.

Expectations

According to Gopal Reddy, president, FKCCI, the trade and industry in the State expect a few basic things from the new government and that includes ease of doing business, simplified compliance norms and regulations, people and industry-friendly governance, and patience to listen to the problems of MEMEs.

FKCCI also demanded a rollback of the recent hike in power tariff.

Jolt for JD(S) in Hassan

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

The JD(S) has suffered a jolt in Hassan while the Congress and the BJP strengthened their base. Hassan is the native place of party patriarch H.D. Deve Gowda. He campaigned extensively in Hassan and that helped the party get back Hassan seat, which was won by the BJP last time. However, it lost both Sakleshpur and Belur to the BJP.

Former Minister and five-time MLA H.D. Revanna retained his Holenarsipur seat by a thin margin of 3,252 votes against Shreyas Patel of the Congress.

A. Manju is now JD(S) MLA from Arkalgud. He won against Independent candidate M.T. Krishne Gowda, a Congress-rebel candidate. H.P. Swaroop won against BJP MLA Preetham Gowda by a margin of 7,854 votes.

Retired bureaucrats and police officers fail to make a mark

Hemanth C.S.
BENGALURU

Retired bureaucrats and police officers who threw in their hats to contest the Assembly elections did not fare well in the polls. Across parties, the results have been disappointing for them.

Former Bengaluru Police Commissioner Bhaskar Rao, who contested on BJP ticket from Chamarajpet, secured 23,678 votes and stood second behind Congress's Zameer Ahmed Khan who emerged victorious with 77,631 votes.

From AAP to BJP

Mr. Rao, who quit the police force to try his hand in politics, had joined the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in 2022 and was hoping to contest from Basavanagudi Assembly constituency.

Mr. Rao quit AAP just a few months before the polls and joined the BJP. However, he was not fielded from Basavanagudi, but was given ticket from Chamarajpet, a constituency where Mr. Khan has won multiple times.

Former Bengaluru Police Commissioner Bhaskar Rao, who contested on BJP ticket from Chamarajpet, lost.

Former BBMP Commissioner and IAS officer B.H. Anil Kumar (retired), who contested on BJP ticket from Koratagere, a reserved constituency, also did not fare well. Mr. Kumar who was pitted against former Deputy Chief Minister G. Parameshwara of the Congress polled 24,091 votes and stood third.

P.R. Sudhakar Lal of the JD(S) came second securing 64,752 votes while Dr. Parameshwara got 79,099 votes.

Former KAS officer L.C. Nagaraj, accused in the ₹4,000-crore IMA ponzi scheme scam, who was fielded by the BJP from Madhugiri against incumbent MLA M.V. Veerabhadraiah and Congress leader K. Rajanna also lost. Mr. Nagaraj securing 15,612 votes finished in third place after Mr. Rajanna and Mr. Veerabhadraiah of JD(S).

Former KAS officer Mathai K., who contested on AAP ticket from Shantinagar, got 1,604 votes.

AAP gets fewer votes than NOTA

Suchith Kidiyoor
BENGALURU

Efforts of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) to open its account in the Karnataka Assembly elections yielded no result again. The party, which received the national party tag recently, got fewer votes than NOTA (None of the Above).

While the party got 0.58% share of the votes, NOTA got 0.69% in the State. A total of 2,69,593 voters disapproved of the candidates fielded by political parties and those who contested as Independent candidates.

However, when compared with the previous Assembly elections (2018), the NOTA votes have dropped this time. A total of 3,13,696 people had opted for NOTA in 2018, which was 0.86% of total votes cast.

Prithvi Reddy, the State convener of AAP, said, "People of the State have a mandate for a stable government. They have elected a party. We have to wait and see if the politics of the State will change in the future. We accept the mandate given by the people. We have failed to convert the love and affection the party has received into votes. In the 2023 elections, the AAP changed the political narrative in the State. The schemes that were announced by other political parties on providing free electricity, free bus rides for women and others were borrowed from our party."

A file photo of Prithvi Reddy releasing the AAP manifesto for the Assembly elections.

While the party got 0.58% share of the votes, NOTA got 0.69% in the State

In 2018, the party fielded 28 candidates and received 0.06% of votes (23,468). In elections this year, 208 were in the fray. Anekal Doddaiah, a candidate of the party who contested in Ron received 8,839 votes, which was the highest among all the AAP candidates.

Even in urban pockets like Bengaluru, the party failed to receive the confidence of the people. Prominent faces of the party, including Brijesh Kalappa, Mohan Dasari, Mathai K. and Shanthala Damle, were defeated without getting a significant number of votes.

Quiet intensity: Although the ceremony for the dead has sad undertones, the rituals include drumbeats and dancing.

Birds of a feather: The ceremonial totem of the Karbis features a wooden racket-tailed drongo, which symbolises clan unity.

Sacred rites: Karbis believe that unless the spirits of the dead are sanctified with the rituals of *Chomangkan*, they do not get peace.

Coming together: There are no formal invitations to the rituals for the remembrance of the departed but all guests are welcome to take part.

Established custom: The rituals are performed wearing traditional traditional attire and jewellery.

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BENGALI

BENGALI, KAYASTHA girls 32/ 5ft 4inch, B.Tech Pretty fair ,Working MNC Toronto Canada as Manager, seeks educated settled groom working in Canada .M: 9477507531

COMPUTER / INFO.TECH

MY DAUGHTER MBBS, awaiting Divorce 26 years looking for alliance from Doctors / IT professionals. Please message on whatsapp no. 9742619734 with biodata.

COSMOPOLITAN

HINDU DOCTOR MDS, 31yrs, 160 cms, Fair, Affluent Family in Chennai, seeks well–educated Groom from similar background. Contact: 98415 81541

DIVORCEE

TAMIL BRAHMIN 51 years, Divorcee Bride. Seeking Suitable Groom. Contact: tirumariage@gmail.com

DOCTOR

MATCHING MUSLIM Labbai Tamil Doctor Groom For a MBBS 23/160cm Fair Muslim Pretty Cultured and Well Mannered. Father and Mother Both Doctors. shakeelabaanua@gmail.com.

MATCHING HINDU Tamil Doctor Groom for a MBBS DNB OG 30yr158cm Fair Hindu BC Saliyar– Weaving– Works in Pvt Med College Chennai Ct 9444141815

DOCTOR GIRL MD Anesthesiology 33/ 165 fair pretty cultured & well mannered Chennai based doctors family. Father Doctor Kerala Nair, Mother Tamil CSI. Doctor grooms MD MS MCh DM & Engineers from good family background prfd. 9840050381/ 9840985383

MY DAUGHTER MBBS, awaiting Divorce 26 years, looking for alliance from Doctors.. Please call or message 9742619734.

PARENTS OF doctor well mannered and good looking MS OBG 91 born looking for suitable match CNB please send BHP to balkrishrajv@gmail.com

KAMMA NAIDU, 30, Punarpoosam, Midhunam, Magara Lagnam, M.B.B.S, Govt.Doctor, M.D (Gen), studying DM seeks suitable Doctor Groom. Ct: 9994590732

VANNIYAKULA KSHATHRIYA good looking girl, 32, MS(IITM), Ph.D(UK) working as Assistant Professor in a Central Institute in Bangalore, Seeks well settled, tall, fair groom with professional Masters / Ph.D degree, working in Bangalore with minimum salary 20L PA. Contact : 94422 20103, 82488 25952

HINDU NADAR 32/M.B.B.S., M.D., Rich Family (500 Cr.) Industrialist, only daughter seeks any doctors. Contact: Mrs. S.P.Revathi – 9884300680

MCH IIYR, 28, 5ft 8inch, rohini seek veg MD/MS/SS groom from Chennai. Parents Brahmin&Pillai. 6383189302

MUDALIYAR, TAMIL, Chennai, Dec. 1992, 165CM, Doctor PG–Pediatrics, pursuing fellowship in CMC, Vellore seeks suitable alliance from well settled family–Doctors, Engineers–MS/MBA, CAs. CELL 9444841350

WANTED SUITABLE groom for beautiful girl, 39/ doctor/ DKV/ from affluent family. Contact– 9865795874 (M)

26 YEARS /165cm Doctor,from Chennai Joining Neurology residency in June 2023 at New Jersey USA. Seeks Medical Doctor Groom doing Residency/Fellowship in USA. Hindu,Tamil OBC preferred Whatsapp/Call 9677026459

DM II yr Seeks PG (Clinical) Super Specialist / Civil Servant / Group I officer / well employed PG in Engineering from Mudaliyar Community born before March 1989. Ph: 70104 29191

Christian Nadar PG Doctor Girl CMC Vellore, good Looking, 28/152 seek PG Doctor. Contact: 9790794189

THE HINDU

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IAS / ALLIED SERVICES

WANTED BRIDEGROOM –For unmarried my cousin and daughter –a)1985 Born Doctor working All India Civil Services– Revenue in Chennai No Sibling expecting same Cadre and b) 32/165,A. P. GEC,M.E.,Ph.D. No sibling Hindu SC AD –Retd Director GOI/ wife–Vellalar –MVSc., Doctors settled in Chennai preferred. CNB –matri9757@gmail.com

MALAYALAM

SEEKING SUITABLE match from Unmarried groom for 38 years 152 cm, MBBS, IFS, Hindu SC, CNB Ct: 8137003061

SEEKING SUITABLE match from Unmarried groom for 39 years 158 cm, B.Tech, MBA, Lecturer. Hindu SC. CNB: Ct: 8137003061

DHEEVARA GIRL 35/163/Pooram,Good looking,Software professional,working in MNC Trivandrum ,Financially well off family,Caste No Bar , Seeks suitable Groom .contact :9446551054,944771054,Not Bureau

NAIR FAMILY of Mumbai seeks suitable alliance for their daughter working in Mumbai BE/MS (US) 32/165cm Thiruvathira vegetarian divorced with no liabilities (Alappuzha, Kerala) from Nair men aged upto 36 with suitable qualifications Contact: 9322358659

Nair Girl, 30, 5'4", Remarriage, Upper Middle Class, B.Tech, MBA, Ernakulam based, employed as HR manager in MNC. Proposals invited from parents of well employed Nair/Menon Boys, Age Group 31-34 years. **Ph. 9961368211**

TAMIL

Nadar Christian 29/157 Govt.Empld M.com, Divorce with a Son. 1st/divorce groom blw35. No brk. Ph: 9952083480

CSI CHRISTIAN Nadar Girl Fair, Good Looking, 03–04–1986 born / 152cm / M.Sc M.Phil, working as Assistant Professor in a Reputed Women's College, Mount Road, Chennai. Both Parents Doctors (Private), Suitable Alliance, Employed / Settled in Chennai / With Clean Habits from Same Community. Contact: 9841182514

RC AD, Dec-1988, Fair 164cm MBBS Govt. Service seeks suitable Groom. CT: 9487284707.

CATHOLIC VELLALAR Girl 30 /171 MBBS Pursuing PG Texas, USA Seeks professional from USA. Ct: 9150153743

CHRISTIAN NADAR 35 MBA M.Phil, (PhD), Asst.Professor Seeks Suitable Groom Ph: 99410 62047 / 91590 22915

MALAYSIA CHRISTIAN professional bride seeking for educated unmarried bridegroom age 40–48yrs to marry and settle down in Malaysia. Spouse visa/work will be recommended. WhatsApp directly to +60176917801.

CHRISTIAN NADAR girl, fair, beautiful with PG in Commerce, affluent family working in reputed Company Good Salary looking for groom well educated, well settled from an affluent family age within 34. Parents Contact. . 9840129090.

MUDALIAR,29/169cms, B.Arch M.S (Italy), Project Officer, Delhi, Father CA Auditor, Mother Retd Professor, Affluent & Educated. Looking Profsnly Qlfd match frm any equal community. abroad/India.9994022447,9994022440

HINDU GAVARA Thanjavur 31/162 Poosam Kadagam MBBS, DGO, MS (O&G) Govt, Employee seeking bridegroom any Naidu MBBS with PG, Group1 Officer below 35 any hindu BC FC preferred within Tamilnadu or Pondy whatsapp 9789742455/9786154291

PILLAI (CNB): 26/V.Fair & Beautiful, UG, Diploma in Apparel Tech, Diploma in Graphic Designing, Coimbatore, Elite Family, Seeks groom Business / Abroad – 8925019776

HINDU NADAR 32/MBBS, M.S., (Daughter of Elite Family) Well Settled Family, Seeks Any Doctor. 9444401000

SC ADIDRAVIDA, 34/ B.E. MNC 75, 000pm, (IAS Officer's Daughter) Seeks Groom. Ct: 944440–1000

HINDU TAMIL Yadhava Girl, tall wheatish , B Tech, currently working in Citibank Belfast UK, 93 born Seeks Suitable IT Groom who can relocate to UK. CNB. Ct:73050 10105

HINDU SC(AD) 32 Govt Dr MS(O.G) Rs.75000/pm seeks suitable. Groom 9443158169

VANNIYAR, 29/164, M.E, fair good looking. Expecting well qualified, good looking, settled groom. Pref from IT/ Banking. Ct: 9444171147

35 PILLAI B.Com MBA Anusham Divorcee issueless seeks suitable groom 9094020665

TAMIL

MUDALIAR /PILLAI 35/154 fair Hastham MCA Uppr Mid Cls Chennai Seeks Prof Quaf Working Groom 8220757159

SC AD TAMIL 29 Staff Nurse at AI-IMS New Delhi Seeks Groom From GOVT/PSU /PVT. Whatsapp BHP to: 9488854998

HINDU NADAR girl, MOB 8/1994, ME, Junior Research Fellow, IIT Kharagpur West Bengal, 168 cms, 65 kg, Wheatish brown, Thiruvathirai, Mithunam with Chevvai Ragu Kaethu, Upper middle class Seeks equally qualified boy, well settled. Ct : 96265 15511

HINDU MUDALIYAR 26, BE, 170cm, VIP Well to do Seeks Suitable Groom 9710093999 / 8939691888

CHETTIAR (CNB): 30/Good Looking, B.Arch, M.RES (France), PG M.A (IARD) OXFORD Brookes University–London, Leading Architecture Firm in Coimbatore, Elite Family, Seeks Groom Abroad/ Business / Eng – 8939012419

TAMIL HINDU Girl 38, BE,MBA from Leading Business School, Divorcee, working in MNC Chennai Caste No Bar. Seeks Suitable groom from Professionals. Contact: 94449 15440

SAIVA PILLAI 27 / 157 B.Tech MSc. Working in UK, Johnson & Johnson / 40 laks P.A. Seeks Groom Working at U.K Europe & India. Caste No Bar. Ct : 91 76390 88446

GROOM PROPOSALS invited for Nov 1998/165 cms, Fair & beautiful girl with good family values, Completed MS and working in USA from Vanniya Kula Kshatriya, Tamil boys in late 20's working in USA (Preferrable) / NRI's. Height above 175 cms, respectable family with good habits. Email: ezhilvijay7472@gmail.com (mob: 9791156760) with photo and horoscopes.

HINDU/SC.AD, 27/5'2" MCA, TA @ Infosys, 10L/p.a. Simmam/Magam. Same Caste Groom from Chennai. 9840365908

MUDALIAR GIRL BE 27/155 Fair, Pooradam, from good family background, Bengaluru seeks suitable Hindu Groom with high moral values. Ct: 7975421774

YADAVA 34/163 BE, ECE Emp chennai Divorcee seeks caring clean habit Hindu groom. Caste no bar. 9487153988

PILLAI/MUDALIAR, 33, Good looking, MBBS, MD Final yr, Well Settled family seeks Groom aged 33-36 yrs, Engineer/ Business/ Doctor. 9345855735

SAIVAPILLAI TIRUNELVELI, 24, Good Looking, B.E., Comp.Science, Employed seeks suitable Groom (India /Abroad).Ct:8870504498/ 9486852992

RC NADAR 27, BE, IT, 165cm, Income 50000, Seeks Suitable Groom Contact: 9380791999

HINDU NADAR 27 B.COM/MBA Fair, Yearly income 7.5L, Employed in Chennai seeks Same caste Employed Groom from Chennai. 9444844884, 9384888889

AYYAVAZHI-NADAR Age 22 / 170 cm Magaram, Advocate Family well Settled Kanyakumari dis only. 9840075922

SAIVA PILLAI Tirunelveli girl 26/165, Punarpoosam/ Mithunam, BE (CS) BITS employed MNC 35 LPA seeks groom from same & allied community age between 27 to 32. Ct: 8072149714/ 6383601807

INTERCASTE HINDU girl, 26, 155, BE, MS (mechanical), 3 yrs MNC experience, fair, seeks Doctor / Engineer / Professional Groom, Caste no bar. 9445531558

VANNIYAKULAKSHATRIYA, BUSINESS family, Star Bharani, 28, B.Tech, MBA, Business Associate, MNC seeks well educated, Hindu community groom. 9840447199/ raghasudhan1962@gmail.com

HINDU/TAMIL/DKV/Fair/30/165cm/ BDS, M.Sc., (Fore. Odo)/ not working/Drs.family alliance wanted from:Doctors/Engineers/IAS/Professors/same caste/below-35 India or Europe. Contact No: 9443439526.

BE / MNC. Father Business Man, Seeks Alliance for their Daughter. 26/Kettai, Pillai/Mudaliar or Any Caste. Ph : 98400 93322

HINDU PATTINAVA Chettiar Girl age 32 years studied M.D. DNB, Cosmetics Dermo Surgeon. Working in MIOT Hospital, Chennai. Seeks Suitable Bridegroom. CNB. Ct : 96779 56767

THENGALAI 24/156, Srivatsam, Kettai3, LLB Hons, Bharatnatyam Dancer, Chennai /Bangalore based Lawyer/CA/Group A Service Groom with 4 years difference preferred Contact : 9902869811

SOZHIA VELLALA/ Visagam/ 31/5.6/ PG/ Self Employed seeks alliance from Chennai. Send Horoscope/ Family/ Profession/ Contact details to balasai1410@hotmail.com / Mob:92821 11566

VANNIYAR 28/168cms, Kettai, MBBS, Medical officer, state govt. seeks suitable professional groom Ct:9884244151

LOOKING FOR educated, well settled, Hindu Iyer Brahmin for Girl, 24/167cms slim, fair, beautiful. M.Tech., India & Abroad. Short marriage. Awaiting divorce. E–mail: kshmi@myyahoo.com / 9345253699

BRIDES WANTED

BENGALI

ISLAM, 32/ Asst Professor, (MA, Mphil, PhD) Mankachar College, Assam. Seeks beautiful and an honest girl as my life partner, minimum bachelor's degree any background. Contact No. 6397431227

COMPUTER / INFO.TECH

HINDU TAMIL Viswakarma 31 Years Handsome 6 Feet Well Settled Canadian PR Senior Data Analyst Looking For Bride Good Looking Good Educational And Family Background Willing To Settle In Canada. 9444116659, 9283285686.

DOCTOR

DM DOCTOR, Catholic 34,173, Asst Prof in Chennai, seeks suitable Doctor/Civil Services/ CA bride.Ph 8122083188

HINDU MBC Maruthuvar (Vaithiyars), MBBS Own Clinic, 33, Tall and Good Looking seeks Alliance For Remarriage from Divorced Bride or Unmarried. MBBS, BSMS, BAMS or other degrees from Good Family Background. Caste No Bar. Ph: 9442788649, 7598179790

GUJARATI

Wanted a Gujarati or Marwari girl for a US based Dr. Anish Bavishi residing in Houston. Dob:02.08.91, Time 1.44 a.m in Chicago. Contact: 8336057630.

HINDI

TELI, MBA (BITS), 91 born, 5'8, MNC Gurgaon,10 LPA, Bihar, 7503922636

1985/175CM. IT. 40 Lakhs PA. Chennai. Father Doctor. Seeks well educated bride. WhatsApp: 96290 12248

MALAYALAM

HINDU NAIR 27/176cm Pooram MBA Deputy Manager HDFC Bank Coimbatore. Salary 5-6 Lak PA. Seeks Educated Working Bride. Ct:8449975810.

AMBALAVASI YOUTH, B.Com., C.A.(inter) Palakkad, 36 Yrs, handsome, vegetarian, non-alcoholic, God-fearing, employed in a MNC in Kerala, mutually divorced after one month of marriage with no liabilities whatsoever, seeks proposals from parents of ambalavasi or Nair girls (vegetarians only), unmarried or widow / divorcee without any liability. Please contact: 8891637987

NRI

Tamil Christian Nadar, Gd Looking, B.Tech, M.S Computer Science (USA) Software Engineer Working in MNC in Toronto Seeks an Educated Bride, a slim, Good-Looking, Flair for Fitness Whatsapp: 9945536139, thamby3232@gmail.com

PUNJABI

CHENNAI BASED Punjabi Khatri Father Wants Suitable Brides for 2 Sons aged 38 &32,Tall Handsome Educated,well placed.Caste No Bar. 8681094931

TAMIL

CSI CHRISTIAN NADAR, Chennai settled 36yrs/165cms, B.E., working in MNC. Innocent Divorcee seeks same caste working or qualified Bride. Ct: 94434 82782

Handsome, Fair & Tall Groom 26 years, Christian-RC, Mech Er., Canada PR. Seeking Christian (R.C./ C.S.I.) well-Educated & Employable Professional Bride willing to settle in Canada. Ct: 9176900066

82 BORN, RC christian, BE software Engineer, Chennai, Never married, caste no bar, CT– 9500188067

Doctor 25/178, Fair Seeks Suitable Match MBBS / BDS Arcot Mudaliyar Age:20-22. 9940027947 / 9791059529

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MUDALIYAR, 28, 175 cms, Working Professional, M.Sc. Lives in Australia. Belongs to an affluent business family with a good net worth. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448344

CHETTIAR, 31, 180 cms, Businessman, MS. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Doctor. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for an amiable match from similar community. Contact: 6366448343

CHETTIAR, 28, 183 cms, Working Professional, MS in Engg. Lives in USA. Father is an affluent Businessman with a good net worth. Looking for a compatible match from USA. Contact: 6366448344

VANNIA KULA KSHATRIYA, 29, 170 cms, Managing Director, BE. Lives in Hosur. Father is an affluent Businessman with a good net worth. Looking for a suitable match. Contact: 6366448343

VANNIA KULA KSHATRIYAR, 25, 173 cms, Doctor, MBBS. Lives in Salem. Father is an affluent Businessman with a good net worth. Looking for a like minded and well educated match from same community in Tamil Nadu. Contact: 6366448343

ELITE GROOMS WANTED

MUDALIYAR, 32, 165 cms, Working Professional, IFS. Lives in Chennai. Parents are working professionals. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448344

KONGU VELLARLAR GOUNDER, 27, 157 cms, Entrepreneur, M.Com. Lives in Coimbatore. Parents are Entrepreneurs. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a compatible match. Contact: 6366448344

NADAR, 23, 163 cms, Not Working, Pursuing MDS, Lives in Chennai. Father is an Engineer in PWD and Mother is a Teacher. Looking for a Doctor or Any Professional from the same Community in India. Contact: 6366448346

REDDY, 25, 160 cms, Pursuing Masters. Lives in Coimbatore. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a suitable match. Contact: 6366448343

CHRISTIAN, 23, 157 cms, MBBS. Lives in Nagercoil. Father is a Captain in Ship. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for an affable match from Roman Catholic Community. Contact: 6366448343

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DIVORCEE

HINDU TAMIL Boy 36yrs Punarpoosam/ Kadagam B.Sc., Nautical, Second Officer in Cargo Ship, 18 Lpa, Leagally Divorced, No Issues. Seeks Educated Bride from Cultured Family. Ct: 6369004108

SUITABLE MATCH for Hindu IAS 37, 172, Divorced, no child, CNB. PG doctors preferred. Contact 8826377843

HINDU, Malayalee groom 49/180cm, MBA, Business, caste no bar, seeks bride, any state. contact : 8188985891

SUITABLE EMPLOYED partner for a tall Hindu boy, known family, 49 years, B.tech, MS, US citizen, employed, divorcee, contact : 91-9645145972 WhatsApp

ENGLISH

47 without Income seeks well Settled Lady as Life Companion. Age, Religion, Marital Status No bar Whatsapp 8939226446

MALAYALAM

MARINE ENGINEER Merchant Navy, 28, 167 cm, Hindu, Chothy, Mob-9526432651

WANTED HINDU Vegetarian girl for 34 years Brahmin boy graduate entrepreneur, Trivandrum. Ct: 9249414941

A WELL Settled Kerala Viswakarma (Blacksmith) 29/188cm Chothy BE, MBA Running an Engineering Industry in Chennai looking for a Suitable Match. Ct: 8015878921/ 9940168679

WANTED BRIDE Nair (32 years, Visakham) Kalamassery. B.Tech, PGDM. Manager (Foreign Exchange Trading) at HDFC Bank, Ernakulam. Phone 9495307218.

MBA / CA / ICWA

GUJARATI BRAHMIN boy CA/CS/ICWA invites alliance from CA, IT, SAP professional bride. Mob: – 8758782911

TAMIL

CASTE, RELIGION Nobar alliance invited from Educated Widow/Divorcee without Children around 50yrs for a Muslim Businessman aged 70, B.A Monthly income 2.6 Lakhs. Ct:9443011354

HINDU NADAR CA/CFA, 27, 170cm, Income 500000/–, Seeks Suitable Bride. KA Raman Nadar 9380791999

MUDALIAR (CNB) 30/180, Handsome, B.E, MS(USA) Business Analyst, Canada, Elite Family, Seeks Bride Good looking & Affluent Family– 9840437858

HINDU NAICKER 48yrs/179cms BE, US return, High Net Worth, Clean Habits, First marriage, Vegetarian, seeks Bride. Caste No Bar. Divorcee and Widows excuse. Ct: +917397267754 wedadv09@gmail.com

HINDU NADAR 35, BE, 175cm, Income 200000 Divorcee Seeks Suitable Bride KA Raman Nadar 9380791999

TAMIL

HINDU, ARUNDHATHIYAR- SC, B.E., (E&C) DOB- 25.12.1990 seeks Groom from same Caste. Ct: 9535523396.

Vellalar Pillai 38/157, 58kg, Fair, MCA Manager- Nationalised Bank, Chennai Divorcee seeks equally qualified and Employed Groom Ct: 9445671401

HINDU MUDALIAR
Thiruvathirai
Super Speciality Doctor 34 seeks Doctor / Industrialist groom between 34 & 37. Caste no bar
Ct: 98842 02884
vijayalakshmivalaya@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR GROOM
B.E.,MS., (ABROAD SERVICE)
SOZHIA VELLALAR
AGE:28 ARCHITECT
WORKING MNC COMPANY IN BANGALORE.
CONTACT:
93451-21214
NATIVE: TRICHY.

TAMIL

MUDALIAR 26/160, Fair,Beautiful, BE, SWE,Infosys,700000.PA,Well Settled Family, CNB. 7299576644, 7299576666

RC NADAR, 32/156, B.Tech., Working in TCS, Canada seeks RC Groom. Caste No Bar. Ct: 75388 02230

TELUGU

BALIJA NAIDU Ashwini 23/168 B. Tech, M.Tech good looking seeks Professional Qual working in IT, Corporate, Banking sector/Govt ct: 9940224519

VERY RICH, Kamma, 94 born tall, slim, fair & Beautiful Girl, International MBA with mild defect in hearing Seeks rich educated Kamma Ggroom well settled in Chennai. 7305010105

Seeking Groom Hindu Religion for 81 born Postgraduate, Employed in Infosys, Caste no bar, Contact- 9502860817

NAIDU ISSULESS DIVORCE, Born 1975, Class II Govt Officer. Seeks Groom Preferably Chennai, CNB –9360167989

TELUGU

RICH (KAMMA Naidu) 23, Fmous Textile Mills & Star Hotels Family (500cr.) seeks Rich groom. Ct: 7200067015

REDDIAR 32/165CM MBBS, MS Own Health Centre in Chennai, Well Settled Family. Seeks Industrialist/ Business/ DR/ SR.Professional From Well Settled Family Cnb 8925640111

LOOKING FOR Groom Age : 30 to 35 Telugu Brahmin PhD USA match Contact:vvkrishna1062@gmail.com

Telugu Bestha Naidu Bride age 31 years Height 163 permanent job as Assistant Professor working in Delhi from well to do family seeks suitable Bridegroom from decent family. CASTE NO BAR send Bio-data with photo to her father's WhatsApp No.9440109317 / 9391031354.

URDU

URDU MUSLIM Labbai 30yrs/150cm, B.E Software Engineer/1.3 lakh PM. Seeks B.E, M.E, Engineer Groom KA & TN State Only. Ct : 94426 69961.

TAMIL

MUDALIAR GROOM, First Marriage, 45, 5ft 7inch, BE – ECE, Bangalore. 9886493369 , rajdmohan@outlook.com.

IYER SRIVATSA 45 yrs USA LA / Chennai Capgemini Senior Progam Manager Never Married Veg Seeks Suitable Girl Ct: 8825457700 /+1(818) 9279760

ARCOT MUDALIAR MBA IIM 168/Sep'88 Thiruvadirai(CleanHoroscope) Handsome Fair TEETOTALLER, Bangalore 45L. Seeks Unmarried Qualified Smart Girls. CasteNB. 9940434055, 9742010729

59, CLEAN Habits Good Looking Own House Stable Income Seeking Fair Issueless Bride. Ct: 8610446647

HINDU NADAR 26, 180cm, Income 200000, Working in Bangalore Seeks Suitable Bride. Ct: 9380791999

CHETTIYAR, 24MANAI, MBA, 47, 5.4ft, well settled, young looking divorcee/no kids, worked with all major Telecoms as Sr.Manager, now owns mid size Internet solutions Pvt Ltd. company with TRAI's Cat–C license, 30lacs p.a., own villa, seeks bride below 42, unmarried, divorcee,widow, Caste no bar, Mob: 6379257390

WE ARE looking for an alliance for our son , residing in Bangalore, height (5ft 7inch), (B.Tech) graduate, working in an MNC , DOB 15.11.1991. Avittam, Bharadwaja gotharam, Brahmin Iyer. The bride should hail from a decent, educated family. Brahmin Iyer, age difference up to 5 years, preferably working in Bangalore. . Contact with (Astrological) details mobile No.9449048076 or Email to sivauma4@hotmail.com

VANNIYAR AGE 29,B.com,C.A.Work at Infosys,Salary 75k,Wanted Bride Same Cast (Sevvai Dosham).Ct 9841665583

TAMIL VISWAKARMA, 37/5.9, B.E., MBA., Chithirai, Kanni, HCL, Chennai, First Marriage seeks Good Looking, Fair Bride. CNB. Ct: 99440 97021

AGAMUDI MUDALIAR Elite Family 33/ 170 Rohini/ Mirugasim M.Sc IT Works in MNC Seeks UG/PG Bride. 9176780777

COIMBATORE, RACE course based MIB, 30/175 with Ragu Kaethu, Upper middle class, S/o.Cinema Producer / Director, seeks suitable bride Kurumba Gounder / Nadar. 9442105222

Engineer IIT Mudaliar 6'2 Boy born Nov 91 Wkg in Hyderabad Top MNC Sal 60 lacs Seeks Bride 5' 4 Doctor, CA, Engineer Contact: 7382620365

24 MANAI TELUGU CHETTIAR 30/180 B.Tech, MBA, Bharani, HR Manager @ Infosys, Chennai. Seeks Suitable Educated & Working Bride. 9789056884 / subbudu@gmail.com

S EMPLOYED M4 M.E. 27 YRS Govt. employed Hindu. swathi. settled T. Nadu. Nuclear family, M:– 9443202585

ALLIANCE INVITED from a settled Hindu family for our son 36/ 175cms, Good Looking, B.E., M.S (UK), Caste no bar, Prefer Pet Lovers. Contact: 8148796783–Trichy

MUDALIYAR WELL settled parents seek educated bride for their son Chithrai 36 5ft 11inch IT Engineer residing in Dubai Ph: 9884452926

HINDU DKV Pallan Age 41/167cm Manager Nationalised Bank, Salary 14 Lakhs PA. Seeks Suitable Bride. Ct: 99652 11259

CASTE NOBAR Hindu Tamil affluent only child SC 30/170cm Handsome MS (CS) Software Engineer Microsoft Seattle USA H1B visa I140 appd seeks suitable Bride (Tamil//Telugu/Malyalam/Kanada) preferably working/studying in USA. Ct: 9445442020/9445006500

HINDU BRAHMIN, 50, Remarriage, State Govt. Employee seeks any Brahmin Bride. Ct: 0461-2338755, Cell No: 89037 24659

PILLAI 29 6 feet MCA IT Punarpusam Chennai left leg & hand weak due to accident seeks suitable caring Mud/Pillai Bride Geetham 9884858014

KONGU VELLALA Gounder 48yr B.Tech 176cm Inc 6 Lacs Working in Canada Divorcee CNB 9710093999/ 8939691888

27, BE, 175cm, Inc 100000, VIP, Well to do family, Caste no Barseeks Suitable Bride. 9710093999/8939691888

HINDU NADAR MBA IAM, 27yrs, 170cm, Income 200000, Seeks Suitable Bride. KA Raman Nadar 9380791999

AGAMUDAYA MUDALIYAR Divorced 41 Mirugasiridam PhD TNGovt Job Rs1.21Lakh PM 170cm 70kg SlimFair 7904550883

HINDU 34/169 PG Working in MNC, as a Manager in US, Seeks professionally Qlfd. bride from decent family. age 28–32 yrs. CNB Ct: 8754486314

IYER GOUTHAMA Rohini, 14.3.1997, 26 yrs, 168 cms, B. Tech, M.Sc. Genomic Medicine (London, UK), Vegetarian, Settled in Chennai, Affluent business family. Director, Leading Instrumentation company. Seeks Telugu/ Tamil Brahmin girl, professional, aged below 24 years. WhatsApp Parent: 93422 68247

TAMIL

AYYAVAZHI-NADAR Age 23 / 170cm Viruchigam, Advocate Well Settled Kanyakumari Dis only. Ph:9840075922

INTERCASTE 1985 Mithunam MBA, ACS well placed seeks financially unencumbered non divorcee Bride CNB 86676 05361

WANTED A good looking graduate bride for Kamma Naidu Mechanical Engineer of 30 years from affluent family and well settled. Now working in a Multinational company at Chennai. Also from other Naidu community. Contact 9150456568, Email – balajir40@gmail.com

WELL SETTLED, Healthy NRI IT Business Consultant, Looking for Good Looking Female Companion/Soulmate, Hindu age 46, BE, ct: 9487810558

✔ **PILLAI(KARUNEEGAR)**, DOB:24–01–92, BE, Veg, Job: MNC (Software) Chennai, Annual Income: 23.5 lakhs. Seeking a suitable bride from the same or any other community. Ph: 9841784047 Email: pingme.arul@gmail.com.

NADAR 29/178 BE,MS working in USA with clean habits & character reputed family in Chennai,Seeks Good-looking, Educated Bride from affluent,good family background. Ct:8667206699

MUDALIAR 30/175, Handsome, B.E, SWE, Infosys, 1300000.PA, Affluent Family, CNB. 7299576644, 7299576666

HINDU TAMIL Bangalore Based/46/B.E/ Only Son/Estd. Businessman/Own House. Looking for a suitable match for early marriage. (080–69070658)

DEVANDRA KULA Vellalar (PL) DOB : 09.03.2000, Mesham / Ashwini , DCE (BE.,) Young Entrepreneur. BPCL Dealer and IOCL Transporter, Own House and Land in Dindigul seeks a Girl with Educated and Good Family Background. Ct.98940 55699

HINDU NADAR, 33/175, Hastham, Fair, Handsome, Good family, Clean habits, B.Tech., Global MBA, Strategy analyst, Dubai seeks suitable pleasant Bride, good family. Contact: 98431 52680. joie51@yahoo.com

Tamil, 32 Y, 185 CM, 98 KG, Lead Position, PGDCA BE, Financial Institution California USA. Seeking Bride working in USA / willing to relocate. Liberal family values preferred. Hindu Vannar. Caste No bar. Ph: +91 9786265786

MUDALIAR 28/170/FAIR MBA Moolam own House Good Family seeks girl from good family. Subcaste OK 9597830845

HINDU NADAR VIP 25, 165cm, MBA, Income 2000000 Seeks Suitable Bride KA Raman Nadar 9380791999

SENGUNDA MUDALIYAR 28, MBBS, 162cm, Income 50000 Seeks Suitable Bride 9710093999/ 8939691888

ALLIANCE FROM unmarried Iyer girls for bachelor 57 own business traditional teetotaller Iyer. 9447496006

BRAHMIN IYER VADULAM Uthiram Nov 1977 BSc(MCA)MNC, IT 24Lakh PA Seeks unmarried Brahmin Girl 9841071359

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BRAHMIN WIDOWER in B'lore 70 seeks companion, widows /divorcees/ spinsters. kchandra03@gmail.com

35, IYANGAR, Vadakalai, Kashyabam, 15L P.A. ,Chennai. Contact : 91769 86643

BRIDE WANTED
HINDU MUDALIYAR
AGE : 26 , B.E , OWN BUSINESS ,WELL SETTLED RICH , WELL TO DO SEEKS SUITABLE BRIDE
9710093999 /8939691888

ASSISTANT Professor, Chennai M.E 31/ 164cm, Divorcee seeks suitable Bride Unmarried/ Divorcee, No Issue. Naidu/ Mudaliar/ Pillai/ Chettiar Preferred Ct: 94430 52596/ 94456 89306

CSI CHRISTIAN Nadar Parents seeks Fair, Tall Bride Preferably MS/ Working in USA for their second son B.E MS, in USA 28/177Cms H1B,well Settled and working in USA Contact: 98404 65657.

IYENGAR VADAKALAI, Bharadwaja Gotra, Nov 1991, 5'11, B. Tech Nit, 36 Lpa, Mnc @ Bangalore, Seeks Brahmin Bride, Never Married, Age 23 To 29, Contact: matrivr23@gmail.com

Brides Tamil Iyengar Doctors / Engineer for 1993/ 181cm/ Chithrai/ Bharadwaj/ MTech Software Developer @ MNC Gurgoan Doctor Parents North settled Contact: 9300502792

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Rich / Affluent Viswakarma Groom 34 Years Business Require suitable Bride Cast No Bar
Contact:-
98410 63528

WANTED BRIDE
A well Settled Tamil Family Looking for A Suitable Match for their Son, Who is A Doctor MS 29 years, Servicing in well reputed medical College and Hospital in Tamilnadu, from A Decent Family with Post Graduation in Medicine and also any other Professional
CNB
Ph: 8778475035

HINDU TAMIL Nadar 43/181 BE Carleton Univ IISC vimalkrishna@tamilfilmmakerspro.com, 9994351766.

TAMIL YADAVA 29/167 BE MS(USA) senior executive MNC seeks suitable bride from elite & educated family in Chennai . Phone: 94444 16262

Tamil Muslim 30/5'7", Software Engineer in Seattle (USA), MS CS (NY, USA). Affluent Well-Educated Family from Chennai. Contact: 9094349425

DOCTOR,M.D., D.M., 43/ 165, SC/AD Working in a Pvt Hospital, Issueless Divorcee, seeks First Marriage Bride below 35 yrs, any degree from the same Community& from a decent Family Contact: 9445205446.

TELUGU

NAIDU, BALIJA Boy 30, Star Ashwini, B.Tech., 171cm working with Multinational Co, well settled, from affluent family seeks good looking, Qualified, working Girl with family values. Sub Sects No Bar Ct:9840234571

KSHATRIYA RAJU Groom, MD Radiology, Age 29. Same community Bride with PG preferred. Contact: 9500198706

KAMMAVAR NAIDU 30, 174 cm Pooram–Simmam M.S (Engg) working in USA seeks bride from same community working/studying in USA, CT. 9442026567 or kvr1956@gmail.com

CHENNAI BASED employed Chartered Accountant Groom aged 25 years, Telugu Valanadu Brahmin, Bharadhwajam, Kumbam, Poorattadhi. CA Bride preferred

A flush of fresh faces in the new Karnataka Assembly

While the Congress says there are 35 new MLAs this time, there are at least 10 new MLAs from BJP

K.C. Deepika
BENGALURU

As Karnataka delivered an unambiguous verdict on who will lead the next Assembly, it has also made way for many new faces, some of who also emerged as "giant killers," having managed to defeat big names.

While the Congress confirmed that there are 35 new MLAs from the party this time, there are at least 10 new MLAs from the BJP.

Among the names that rose to prominence for bringing down big names was the Congress's Pradeep Eshwar, who defeated the BJP's incumbent MLA and former Medical Education Minister K. Sudhakar in Chickballapura. The 38-year-old defeated Dr. Sudhakar by a margin of 10,642 votes. According to his profile on the NEET coaching academy he founded, Mr. Eshwar is a biology lecturer and motivational speaker.

Darshan Dhruvanarayan of Congress was elected from Nanjangud in Mysuru district. M.A. SRIRAM

In Kodagu district, both constituencies saw major upsets as the Congress breached the BJP's decades-old fortress. Incidentally, both winners are first time MLAs. A.S. Ponnanna, son of A.K. Subbaiah, first president of BJP in the State who later turned a bitter critic of the party, defeated four-time MLA from Virajpet and former Speaker K.G. Bopaiah.

Mr. Ponnanna is a former Additional Advocate General of Karnataka and belongs to the Kodava community. In Madikeri, Mantar Gowda, a doctor, defeated the BJP's Appachu Ranjan, who was eyeing a fourth consecutive win. Dr. Gowda is the son of former Minister A. Manju, who won on JD(S) ticket from Arkalgud constituency in Hassan. Techie-turned entrepreneur Darshan Puttannaiah, 45, son of farmers' leader and politician the late K.S. Puttannaiah, had a successful outing in his second attempt as he won from Melukote as a candidate of the Karnataka Sarvodaya Paksha. He defeated the JD (S)'s C.S. Puttaraju.

Another first-time MLA with the same name is Darshan Dhruvanarayan, son of the late KPCC working president and former MP R. Dhruvanarayan, who successfully contested from Nanjangud constituency. A.C. Srinivas, who the Congress had earlier fielded from Devanahalli, contested in Pulikeshinagar this time and won by a margin of 62,210 votes, defeating Akhanda Srinivasamurthy. Mr. Srinivasamurthy had won twice from Pulikeshinagar on JD(S) and Congress ticket earlier and contested from BSP this time.

Women MLAs

There are also many first-time women MLAs. Among them is Manjula S., wife of incumbent Mahadevapura MLA Arvind Limbavali, who won thrice since 2008 but was the only incumbent MLA from the city the BJP denied a ticket to.

Nayana Motamma, who won on Congress ticket from Mudigere, is the daughter of Motamma, former Minister of Women and Child Welfare in Karnataka.

Latha Mallikarjun, who won as an Independent in Harapanahalli, is the daughter of M.P. Prakash, former Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka. She defeated BJP's G. Karunakara Reddy.

Assembly to see several father-son, father-daughter pairs and relatives

Sathish G.T.
SHIVAMOGGA/BENGALURU

This time, the people of Karnataka have elected more than one member of a family to the Assembly. The Assembly will see several pairs of father-son, father-daughters on the floor of the House.

The former union minister K.H. Muniyappa won Devanahalli on the Congress ticket, while his daughter Roopakala won KGF seat.

Former Ministers of Congress Shamanur Shivashankarappa and his S.S. Mallikarjun have won Davangere North and Davangere South seats respectively. M. Krishnappa and his son Priya Krishna won Vijayanagar and Govindarajanagar seats in Bengaluru.

JD(S) leader G.T. Deve Gowda won from Chamundeshwari constituency and his son G.D. Harish Gowda won Hunsur seat. Former Congress Minister A. Manju won on JD(S) ticket from Arkalgud seat, while his son Mantar Gowda won Madikeri seat on Congress ticket.

There would have been one more father-son pair, if Nikhil Kumaraswamy had won Ramanagara seat. His father H.D. Kumaraswamy won from Channapatna. Mr. Kumaraswamy's elder brother H.D. Revanna has been elected from Holenarsipur seat.

Congress candidates Krishnappa and Priya Krishna won from Vijayanagar and Govindrajnagar constituencies, respectively, in Bengaluru on Saturday. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

Relatives win too

Besides that, many relatives of senior politicians contested and won the election. B.Y. Vijayendra, son for former CM B.S. Yediyurappa, has been elected from Shikaripur seat. Nayana Motamma, daughter of former Congress Minister Motamma, won the Mudigere seat. Former Ministers Ramesh Jarkiholi (Gokak) and Balachandra Jarkiholi (Arabhavi), who fought on BJP ticket in Belagavi district, are brothers.

Balachandra Jarkiholi, who is chairman of Karnataka Milk Federation, was on Saturday, leading in the Arabhavi seat against independent candidate Bimappa Gundapa Gadad by a margin of more than 62,173 votes.

Mr. Ramesh Jarkiholi, meanwhile, won his Gokak seat against a Congress candidate. Interestingly, another member of the family Satish Jarkiholi is in the Congress.

Ramesh Katti, former BJP Lok Sabha member and his nephew Nikhil Umesh Katti contested the election. Nikhil is the son of former Minister late Umesh Katti. While Nikhil won Hukkeri seat on the BJP ticket against A.B. Patil of the Congress, his uncle Ramesh Katti lost Chikkodi-Sadalaga seat to Ganesh Hukkeri.

Hubballi-Dharwad-West MLA Aravind Bellad is the son of Chandrakant Bellad, former MLA, who represented the constituency from 2008 to 2013. Aravind Bellad has been representing the Hubballi-Dharwad-West seat for the BJP since 2013. This time as well, he managed to bag the seat with a significant margin of over 38,600 against Congress' Deepak Chinchore.

Tourism Minister Anand Singh dropped out of this year's race but succeeded in getting ticket for his son Siddharth Singh from Vijayanagara in Vijayanagara district. However, Siddharth Singh lost the seat to Congress leader H.R. Gaviyappa.

Focus on local issues and support of all communities behind Congress' emphatic win, according to analysts

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Political analysts and experts who dissected election results, in which the Congress scored an emphatic victory over BJP and the JD(S), said that the winning party edged its rivals as it focused on local issues and found the support of all communities.

Narendar Pani, Professor at National Institute of Advanced Studies, said that the people of Karnataka have given a very strong verdict in the recently concluded elections.

Prof. Pani said that the people of the State voted for local issues. "It is essentially votes for local issues and local leaders. The BJP leaders brought in many star campaigners from outside. However, this did not work for them," said Prof. Pani.

Narendar Pani

'People have defeated divisive politics'

Narayana A., who teaches Political Philosophy and Indian Politics, Law and Governance and Governance Challenges in India at the Azim Premji University, said that the people of the State have defeated divisive politics and exclusionary development.

"The poor delivered this victory to the Congress for being on their side. Karnataka has defeated divisive politics and exclusionary development at least for the moment. In the process, the idea of Karnataka has won," Mr. Narayana said.

Key takeaway

Chandan Gowda, Professor, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bengaluru, said that the key takeaway from the election results is that the Congress has found high support among all communities across the State.

He added that communities in the past who had identified with one political party have not done so this time.

"A big portion of the Lingayats were with the BJP, but now they have supported the Congress. This could be because of factors like the sidelining of Lingayat leaders and dropping B.S. Yeddiyurappa. The Vokkaligas who are usually identified with the JD(S) have this time supported the Congress in bigger numbers. The Muslim vote has consolidated heavily behind the Congress. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have also voted in large numbers for the Congress," Professor Gowda said.

He also said that Hindutva politics has not held much appeal in most parts of the State.

Chikkamagaluru: Congress wins all seats

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

The BJP suffered a debacle in Chikkamgaluru as all five seats have been won by the Congress. In the last elections held in 2018, the BJP won four of five seats, while Congress won one. This time, including BJP's national general secretary C.T. Ravi, all candidates suffered defeat.

Mr. Ravi was defeated by his former associate H.D. Thammaiah, who joined the Congress just a few days before the elections.

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Timings
BENGALURU

SUNDAY, MAY. 14	
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RISE 01:56	SET 13:59
MONDAY, MAY. 15	
RISE 05:55	SET 18:38
RISE 02:38	SET 14:53
TUESDAY, MAY. 16	
RISE 05:54	SET 18:38
RISE 03:19	SET 15:46

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	35	27
Mysuru	33	24
Bengaluru	31	23

Bengaluru Today
33°C The weather will be warm and humid. Night also will be pleasant. Short spell of light rain and thundershower with gusty winds will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
33°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be warm but humid. Night will be pleasant. Thunderstorm may occur.

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THE HINDU
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Cong. wins six of eight seats in Vijayapura

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

In Vijayapura, the Congress won six of the eight Assembly seats and the BJP and the JD(S) won one each.

BJP's star campaigner Basanagouda Patil Yatnal defeated the Congress nominee Abdul Hamid Musharif.

In Devar Hippargi, Bheemanagouda Patil of the JD(S) beat the BJP MLA Somanagouda Patil Sasanur. In Muddebihal, Ameenappagouda Patil Nadahalli, BJP MLA, lost to Appaji Nadagouda of the Congress.

In Basavana Bagewadi, the Congress nominee Shivanand Patil defeated the JD (S) nominee Appugouda Patil.

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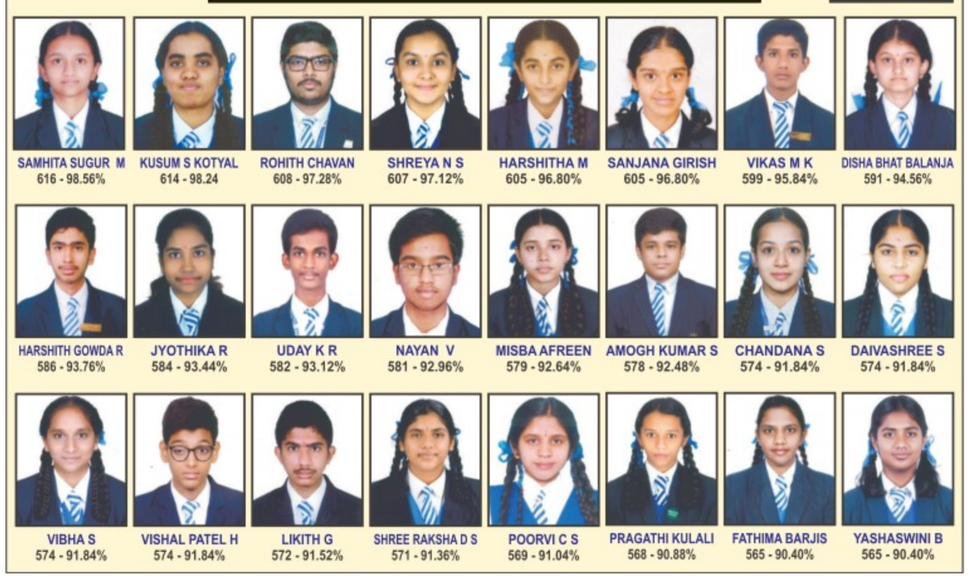

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KUSUM S KOTYAL 614 - 98.24
ROHITH CHAVAN 608 - 97.28%
SHREYA N S 607 - 97.12%
HARSHITHA M 605 - 96.80%
SANJANA GIRISH 605 - 96.80%
VIKAS M K 599 - 95.84%
DISHA BHAT BALANJA 591 - 94.56%
HARSHITH GOWDA R 586 - 93.76%
JYOTHIKA R 584 - 93.44%
UDAY K R 582 - 93.12%
NAYAN V 581 - 92.96%
MISBA AFREEN 579 - 92.64%
AMOGH KUMAR S 578 - 92.48%
CHANDANA S 574 - 91.84%
DAIVASHREE S 574 - 91.84%
VIBHA S 574 - 91.84%
VISHAL PATEL H 574 - 91.84%
LIKITH G 572 - 91.52%
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Pavithra Halkatti, Trustee of M. Rajsekara Murthy Foundation announces "Helping Hand Program" for Woman Weavers who are Single Mothers and in need, on this Mother's Day!

On the joyous occasion of International Mother's Day, Ms. Pavithra Halkatti announced the launch of Helping Hand Program. This initiative aims to provide support, empowerment, and opportunities for single mothers who are woman weavers. With deep compassion and a commitment to uplift them. Ms. Pavithra Halkatti said, "The foundation is taking a significant step forward in creating a brighter future for these women."

Through this program, the Foundation will provide support for education and medical needs on a regular basis for these women from the sales of merchandise commissioned by Ms. Pavithra Halkatti. This will aid and alleviate the burden and ensure that these mothers can provide for their families and pursue their weaving profession without any compromise.

"International Mother's Day is an ideal occasion to launch the Helping Hand Program," said Ms. Pavithra Halkatti, Trustee of the M. Rajsekara Murthy Foundation. "We believe that we can transform their struggles into triumphs" she added.

Ms. Pavithra Halkatti is a Businesswoman, Lawyer, Social Entrepreneur & Philanthropist, she is the grand daughter of Shri M. Rajsekara Murthy, a senior politician in the Karnataka and Central Government of India and great grand daughter of Vachana Pitamaha Dr P G Halkatti, a towering literary figure and social reformer.

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I had promised Sonia Gandhi that I will deliver Karnataka to Congress. I cannot forget when she came to meet me in jail. The Gandhi family had reposed faith in me. I credit party workers and leaders, including Siddaramaiah, for the victory. It was a collective work.

D.K. SHIVAKUMAR,
KPCC president

This is a victory for collective leadership and we have achieved this kind of thumping victory after 35 years because of it.

M. MALLIKARJUN KHARGE,
AICC president

Fate of those who came through 'Operation Lotus' route to the BJP

S.T. Somashekar	Won
Munirathna	Won
Byrathi Basavaraj	Won
K. Gopalaiah	Won
Ramesh Jarkiholi	Won
A. Shivaram Hebbar	Won
N. Nagaraju (MTB)	Lost
K. Sudhakar	Lost
K.C. Narayana Gowda	Lost
Mahesh Kumathalli	Lost
Shrimant Patil	Lost
B.C. Patil	Lost
Siddharth Singh, who replaced his father, B.S. Anand Singh	Lost

A file photo of some of the legislators who joined the BJP through 'Operation Lotus'.

THEY ALSO MADE IT

INDEPENDENTS

K.H. Puttaswamy Gowda - Gouribidanur

Latha Mallikarjun - Harapanahalli

OTHERS

G. Janardhana Reddy (Kalyana Rajya Pragati Paksha) - Gangavati

Darshan Puttannaiah (Sarvodaya Karnataka Paksha) - Melkote

The results are unexpected for the BJP. As party State president, I take responsibility for the setback. We will work as a responsible Opposition.

NALIN KUMAR KATEEL,
BJP State chief

Congress' united show, sustained campaign against '40% sarakara' result in spectacular win

The scale of its victory shows the party was able to form a broad rainbow social coalition behind it; party seems to have reaped maximum electoral benefits from its five social welfare promises

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU

The winners: Congress leaders D.K. Shivakumar and Siddaramaiah during a press conference after the Assembly elections results were declared, in Bengaluru on Saturday. K. MURALI KUMAR

The united electioneering backed by a sustained campaign against Basavaraj Bommai-led "40% sarakara" of the BJP by the Opposition Congress, along with its five pre-poll guarantees, has registered a spectacular victory to govern the State unencumbered by any outside threats, especially the ill-famous "Operation Lotus".

The Congress seems to have reaped maximum electoral benefits from its five social welfare promises that cater to the welfare of the lower income categories.

A blistering campaign by Congress leaders, including Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Siddaramaiah, D.K. Shivakumar, and M. Mallikarjun Kharge and the myriad yatras across towns against the BJP's alleged divisive agenda and bad governance have driven the electorate to vote against the BJP. The Congress' 173 rallies and 55 roadshows in the run-up to the elections and the 'Pay CM' campaign seem to have galvanised voters.

The BJP's Prime Minister Narendra Modi-centric campaign focusing on the benefits of the "double-engine government" and its poll promise of implementation of the uniform civil code and other national issues, apparently, did not go well with the electorate.

Believing that the 2023 Assembly election is his best chance for the top job in Karnataka, Mr. Shivakumar, KPCC president, built momentum against the Bommai-led government by launching the padayatra seeking implementation of the Mekedatu project and highlighting lapses in the handling of the COVID-19 pandemic, more than a year ago. He added new vigour to the organisation by largely focusing on State-specific issues, predominantly corruption charges against the BJP government and hike in the prices of fuel and LPG cylinders.

Bharat Jodo Yatra

Among other factors, the 500-km-long Bharat Jodo Yatra of Mr. Gandhi that criss-crossed Karnataka seems to have successfully projected a political alternative to the people and exposed the alleged blunders committed by the "double- engine" government. The yatra helped the party to understand the pulse of the voters and later encash on it.

A strong local leadership, wide social base, and robust organisation provided a stiff challenge to the ruling BJP.

Rainbow coalition

The scale of the Congress' victory shows that the party was able to form a broad "rainbow" social coalition behind it. The party's emphatic victory in Kittur Karnataka, Kalyana Karnataka, and Central Karnataka clearly demonstrated that it had received great support from all the communities, particularly the dominant Lingayat community and Muslims.

The BJP has been largely able to hold on to the seats it had won in 2018 in coastal Karnataka and Bengaluru city.

The Veerashaiva-Lingayat community, with a vote share of nearly 17%, plays an instrumental role in Karnataka politics. The Congress campaign of alleged neglect of Lingayats by the BJP after the removal of B.S. Yediyurappa from the Chief Minister's post in July 2021 seems to have contributed to improve the Congress' tally in the Kittur Karnataka region.

The removal of 4% reservation for Muslims by the Bommai-led government has backfired on the BJP as results indicate that the Congress won 26 out of the 40 seats in the Kalyana Karnataka region, which has a high proportion of the community votes.

The party's pledge to roll back the 4% quota for Muslims seems to have largely contributed to the consolidation of the community votes for the Congress across all regions. The decimation of the JD (S) in the Old Mysore region too benefited the Congress rather than the BJP.

INBRIEF

Tasting victory with Nandini

One of the most heated issues in the days leading up to the elections, the Nandini-Amul debate, made a comeback on the results day as several citizens celebrated the Congress' victory by consuming Nandini products. Many of them took to social media to post pictures of Nandini products, including badam milk, different kinds of pedas, Mysore Pak, and milk. The hashtag #NandinioverAmul was also trending on Twitter for quite some time. Social media users also pointed out that the Nandini versus Amul debate cost the BJP dearly.

At the Congress press conference on Saturday evening, all party leaders celebrated the victory by feeding one another Nandini sweets.

Double whammy for Somanna; DKS trounces Ashok

The BJP's "political strategy" of fielding two senior leaders of the party R. Ashok and V. Somanna from two constituencies did not stop Congress leaders D.K. Shivakumar and Siddaramaiah (both are aspirants for the chief ministerial post) from winning the elections.

The attempt of the BJP proved disastrous for Mr. Somanna as he lost in both constituencies. Mr. Ashok, however, managed to retain Padmanabhanagar constituency.

Mr. Somanna was made to contest from Varuna against Mr. Siddaramaiah and Chamarajanagar against C. Puttarangashetty. Mr. Siddaramaiah defeated Mr. Somanna by securing 1,19,816 votes. Mr. Somanna polled 73,653 votes. In Chamarajanagar, where he served as district in-charge Minister, Mr. Somanna failed to receive the mandate of the people. The Congres candidate won the election by securing 83,858 votes, whereas Mr. Somanna polled 76,325 votes.

Mr. Ashok, who contested against Mr. Shivakumar, polled 19,753 votes. Mr. Shivakumar emerged victorious by polling a whopping 1,43,023 votes. However, Mr. Ashok retained Padmanabhanagar constituency by defeating his nearest contender V. Raghunatha Naidu of the Congress by a margin of 55,000 votes.

Miserable defeat in State shakes belief of BJP high command being 'invincible'

B.S. Satish Kumar
BENGALURU

Upbeat: BJP workers celebrating victory of party candidates outside a counting centre near Mangaluru. H.S. MANJUNATH

The miserable defeat in the Karnataka Assembly elections of the ruling BJP, whose tally crashed from 104 seats in the last polls to 66 now, has not only shocked the party but also shaken the belief that its high command is "invincible".

The party central leaders themselves had taken complete control over poll preparations and done macro arrangements too. Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself had taken up a whirlwind tour of the State, covering 18 rallies and five roadshows during his visits spanning six days. In all, more than 120 central leaders, including the party's master strategist Amit Shah and a host of Union Ministers as well had vigorously campaigned in the State.

Though the 38-year-old poll history of the State had shown that no ruling party has been voted back to power, there was a strong belief that the BJP high command would rewrite Karnataka's poll history. But with this setback, the high command has to rebuild its own image.

A dip in vote percentage by a mere 0.32 points has resulted in a drastic reduction of 39 seats for the BJP when compared with the previous elections when it had polled 36.22% votes. This is attributed to the complex political landscape of Karnataka marked by multi-cornered contest.

Various factors, including alleged corruption, maladministration, lacklustre performance, and political insecurity marked by groupism added to the BJP's woes. Though the party managed to ensure a smooth transition of power by replacing veteran leader B.S. Yediyurappa with his protege Basavaraj Bommai, the latter took time to get a grip. There was also dithering on dealing with Hindutva elements which set a series of polarising narratives.

'Operation Lotus'

The party's political strategy of 'Operation Lotus' through which it included 16 legislators from rival camps to its fold and made several of them Ministers did not go well with its cadre as it felt alienated.

Many supporters of the BJP feel that the central leaders should have devoted more time to correcting the party government and making it people-friendly rather than waiting for the elections to prepare an elaborate poll strategy.

Some political observers also feel that the BJP central leaders' aggressive efforts to make political inroads in the Vokkaliga-dominated Old Mysore region may have proved costly for the party. This is because such efforts did not get any additional seats to the BJP, but resulted in the Janata Dal (Secular) losing 10 to 20 seats to the Congress since the saffron party snatched a portion of votes from the regional party.

Also, the high command's aggressive involvement in poll preparations coincided with erupting of a controversy over the country's dairy giant Gujarat-based Amul entering into the Karnataka market to take on the State's own dairy cooperative brand Nandini. This invigorated the issue of Kannada pride which was perceived to be hit due to the forced enforcement of Hindi.

Even the party's experiment of denying the ticket to incumbent MLAs in 24 Assembly constituencies too did not help fight anti-incumbency completely as it lost in 13 such constituencies.

The party high command now has to rebuild the party organisation by infusing fresh blood and taking a pro-people approach.

Worst performance of JD(S) in over two decades

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

With the patriarch: A file photo of Nikhil Kumaraswamy, who lost in Ramanagara constituency, with JD(S) national president and his grandfather H.D. Deve Gowda.

The Janata Dal (Secular), the regional party with a strong voter base in the Vokkaliga-dominated region, capitulated to its traditional rival the Congress in a crucial election that it was fighting to remain relevant in the State's politics. In its worst performance in over two decades, not only has it ceded seats to the Congress in this election, but now stares at a bigger threat as the BJP has made inroads into its traditional pockets, seemingly at the cost of the regional player.

No kingmaker

Overall, the number of seats of the JD(S), which was hoping to play the kingmaker role, has seen a steep fall from 37 in 2018 to 19 in 2023. In the changing undercurrents, its vote share has dipped from 18.36% in 2018 to 13.3% in 2023. Its worst-ever performance was in 1999 with 10.42% votes share following the split of the Janata Dal into JD(S) and the Janata Dal (United). The party has faced the voter's ire in its core area partly due to its legislators' apathy and localised poll battles in some constituencies even as the Congress became the leading party in the perceived anti- incumbency and the price rise factors that are now seen to have worked against the BJP.

In all, against 28 seats that it won out of the 61 constituencies across 10 Vokkaliga-dominated districts in the Old Mysore region (except Bengaluru) riding on a perceived anti-Siddaramaiah wave in 2018 that is believed to have led to Vokkaliga consolidation, the party has managed to win just 14 seats in the region where it has a strong base.

The Congress improved its tally to a whopping 39 seats while the BJP has been reduced to six seats in the region. Two seats went to Independents. A steep decline in margins where it has won has also got the JD(S) worried.

While several constituencies in Mandya saw an increased vote share by the BJP, which has improved since 2018, in at least three constituencies – Maddur, Srirangapatna, and Mandya, the saffron party's performance seems to have dented the JD(S) chances.

The party could retain only one seat in comparison to the clean sweep of seven it made in 2018 in Mandya. In contrast to winning six of the seven seats in Hassan, the party won four. It wrested one seat from the BJP, but ceded two to the saffron party and one to the Congress. Similarly, the party's presence dropped from four seats to two seats each in Mysuru and Tumakuru – two important Vokkaliga districts. In Ramanagara district from where the former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy and his son, Nikhil Kumaraswamy, contested, the party's strength dropped from three seats to one.

Nikhil's defeat

The defeat of Mr. Nikhil Kumaraswamy in Ramanagara – from where his grandfather H.D. Deve Gowda, father, and mother, Anitha Kumaraswamy, have won earlier – is learnt to have jolted the family as he faltered in the electoral battle for the second time.

The party's multiple outreach to Muslims also seems to have failed as the community is believed to have consolidated strongly behind the Congress. Similarly, the consolidation of the Scheduled Caste groups and other backward classes along with Lingayats in the Vokkaliga-dominated constituencies seem to have hurt the party.

KARNATAKA VERDICT 2023

We've not been able to make a mark. Once the results come, we will conduct a detailed analysis.
As a national party, we will not only analyse but also see what deficiencies and gaps were left at various levels.
We take this result in our stride.

BASAVARAJ BOMMAI
Chief Minister

Oldest MLA

92 years
Shamanur Shivashankarappa
Davangere South

Youngest MLA

28 years
Darshan Dhruvanarayan
Nanjangud

Highest Margin of Votes

Highest to Lowest

Kanakapura	D.K. Shivakumar	1,22,392 – INC
Chikkodi Sadalga	Ganesh Prakash Hukkeri	78,509 - INC
Athani	Laxman Savadi	76,122 - INC
Yelahanka	S.R. Vishwanath	64,110 - BJP
Pulakeshinagar	A.C. Srinivasa	62,210 - INC
Yanakanamardi	Satish Lakshmanrao Jarikholi	57,211 - INC
Belgaum Rural	Laxmi R. Hebbalkar	56,016 - INC
Sarvagnanagar	Kelachandra Joseph George	55,768 - INC
Basavangudi	Ravi Subramanya	54,978 - BJP
Kudligi	Srinivas N.T.	54,350 - INC

Lowest Margin of Votes

Lowest to Highest

Jayanagar	C. K. Ramamurthy	16 - BJP
Gandhinagar	Dinesh Gundu Rao	105 - INC
Sringeri	T.D. Raje Gowda	201 - INC
Malur	K.Y. Nanje Gowda	248 - INC
Kumta	Dinakar Keshav Shetty	676 - BJP
Mudigere	Nayana Motamma	722 - INC
Chincholi	Avinash Umesh Jadhav	858 - BJP
Jagalur	B. Devendrappa	874 - INC
Bidar South	Shailendra Beldale	1,263 - BJP
Hadagali	Krishna Nayaka	1,444 - BJP
Humnabad	Siddu Patil	1,594 - BJP

This loss is not final. I will continue the fight. I thank those who have voted for JD(S). Electoral losses are not new to me and to my family. My father H.D. Deve Gowda, brother H.D. Revanna and I have all lost elections before. I will strive to build the party's organisation. Cadres need not worry.

H.D. KUMARASWAMY
JD(S) leader

Congress trumps BJP and JD(S) across all regions

Coastal Karnataka, however, remains the only region in the State where the BJP has retained a lead over the Congress; the latter has recovered lost electoral ground in Old Mysore region

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU/MYSURU/ HUBBALLI/KALABURAGI/ MANGALURU

In what is perceived as a wave election, Congress has trumped its opponents Bharatiya Janata Party and Janata Dal (Secular) across all regions, except in Coastal Karnataka where BJP has been successful in holding on to its fort.

Congress supporters celebrate the party's victory in the Assembly elections in Bengaluru on Saturday. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

Region-wise

South Karnataka and Malnad region: 101 seats
Chamarajanagar, Mysuru, Hassan, Mandya, Ramanagara, Bengaluru Rural, Bengaluru Urban, Kolar, Chickballapur, Tumakuru, Chikkamagaluru, Shivamogga, and Kodagu

2018	2023
Cong. : 36	Cong. : 59
BJP : 32	BJP : 25
JD(S):31	JD(S) :15
Others and Ind. : 2	Others and Ind. : 2

Coastal Karnataka: 19 seats
Udupi, Dakshina Kannada, Uttara Kannada

2018	2023
Congress: 3	Congress: 6
BJP: 16	BJP: 13
JD(S): 0	JD(S): 0

Kalyana Karnataka: 41 seats
Bidar, Kalaburagi, Ballari, Vijayanagara, Raichur, Koppal, Yadgir

2018	2023
Congress: 21	Congress: 26
BJP: 16	BJP: 10
JD(S): 4	JD(S): 3
	Others and Ind.: 2

Bombay Karnataka and Central Karnataka: 63 seats
Vijayapura, Bagalkot, Belagavi, Dharwad, Gadag, Haveri, Chitradurga, Davangere

2018	2023
Cong.: 19	Cong.: 44
BJP: 41	BJP: 18
JD(S): 2	JD(S): 1
Others: 1	

South Karnataka

Congress has recovered lost electoral ground in Old Mysore region, at the cost of JD(S), which dominated the region in 2018. The results have delivered a blow to the JD(S), whose relevance in State politics is, to a large extent, tied to its electoral performance in the region.

The JD(S) had won 29 seats from Old Mysore region, drawing nearly 80% of its tally in the previous election. It is now down to 14 seats.

Several prominent JD (S) leaders, including Nikhil Kumaraswamy, C.S. Puttaraju, D.C. Thammanna and H.K. Kumaraswamy, lost the polls.

Congress, which had won only 19 seats in 2018, has won a whopping 37 seats in the region. Both the Chief Minister aspirants from the party Siddaramaiah and D.K. Shivakumar scripted big victories in the region. The results seem to suggest a significant transfer of Vokkaliga votes from JD (S) to Congress, and a consolidation of Muslim votes in favour of Congress, defying attempts by JD(S) to woo Muslims. BJP's aggressive attempts to make inroads into the region may have not converted into an increase in its seat tally.

V. Somanna who was contesting from two seats Varuna and Chamarajanagar, lost both. However, BJP's vote share has increased in the region, which has led to the defeat of JD(S) in several seats, including Mandya.

Congress has scripted an upset defeat for BJP in Malnad region, dominated by BJP for many successive elections now.

Meanwhile, BJP has been able to retain its tally of 15 in Bengaluru, whereas Congress has improved its tally by one.

Kalyana Karnataka

The region from where AICC president M. Mallikarjun Kharge hails and considered to be the stronghold of Congress, has expectedly given a majority to Congress. Congress has won 26 out of 41 seats this time, reducing BJP to 10 seats, JD (S) to 2 and two seats have gone to others. Though Congress had won 21 seats in 2018, post Operation Kamala and byelections, it was down to 18 seats and BJP's tally stood at 19. Congress has won 8 more seats this election.

Though Prime Minister Narendra Modi held multiple rallies in the region especially targeting Kalaburagi, the home district of Mr. Kharge, Congress has won 7 of 9 seats in the district. The party has won all five seats in Ballari district, defeating even BJP heavyweight B. Sriramulu. G. Janardhan Reddy's Kalyana Rajya Pragati Paksha seems to have failed to make a big impact, except for Mr. Reddy winning in Gangavathi.

Kittur Karnataka

The region, the bastion of Veerashaiva-Lingayats and by extension BJP, has posted the most upsetting defeat for the party. Congress that had won 19 seats, has increased its tally to 44, while BJP that had won 41 last election has fallen to 18 seats. Anti-incumbency factor and alleged "ill-treatment of Lingayats in BJP" narrative together with confusion over Panchamasali reservation seems to have helped Congress sweep the Kittur Karnataka region along with the two districts of central Karnataka.

BJP had two Lingayat rebels in the region in the form of former Deputy Chief Minister Laxman Savadi and former Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar who contested on Congress ticket. Though Mr. Shettar lost his seat with a big margin, their tirade against high handedness of few in BJP and alleged ill-treatment of Lingayats in BJP seem to have contributed towards Congress regaining many of the seats. Influential Ministers like Murugesh Nirani, Govind Karjol, and B.C. Patil have lost the polls.

Coastal Karnataka

This remains the only region in the State, where BJP has retained a lead over Congress. BJP's tally was reduced by three seats, from 16 to 13.

Even as Congress won those three seats and won a total of six.

This is also the region where BJP changed six incumbent MLAs and fielded new faces. Though the region saw an intense communal campaign in the first half of 2022, BJP relegated Hindutva to the backburner and highlighted "development" and "benefits of double engine government".

However, controversy over Congress allegedly promising to ban Bajrang Dal may have given BJP a push here.

BJP loses its Hindutva bastions Kodagu and Chikkamagaluru to Congress

Sathish G.T.
Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU/SHIVAMOGGA

The Bharatiya Janata Party failed to retain its stronghold Malnad districts of Kodagu and Chikkamagaluru as two first-time Congress candidates A.S. Ponnanna (Virajpet) and Mantar Gowda (Madikeri) ended the BJP's 20-year run in Kodagu, while in Chikkamagaluru the saffron party lost five seats to Congress. The biggest loss was of BJP national secretary C.T. Ravi.

The hilly Kodagu district, which has two Assembly constituencies, Madikeri and Virajpet, has been a bastion of the BJP for the last two decades, with Hindutva being an important plank. But this time, the BJP faced pressure in both constituencies with anti-incumbency.

H.D. Thammaiah of the Congress won against C.T. Ravi of the BJP in Chikkamagaluru on Saturday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Virajpet constituency had been represented by K.G. Bopaiah. This time, Congress candidate A.S. Ponnanna won the constituency, but in a neck-to-neck fight.

Meanwhile, incumbent MLA of Madikeri Assembly constituency in Kodagu district Appachu Ranjan, who was eyeing a fourth consecutive win, lost to Congress candidate Mr. Mantar Gowda, son of former Minister A. Manju.

In both constituencies, the BJP had been projecting Hindutva and even in campaigns the party relied upon Hindutva. "However, people were looking for change and development politics this time made BJP lose Kodagu," said a leader.

Washout

In Chikkamagaluru, another BJP bastion, the party lost all its four seats to Congress, including Hindutva poster boy Mr. C.T. Ravi. In the last elections held in 2018, the BJP won four of five seats, while Congress won one. This time, including Mr. Ravi, all candidates suffered defeat. Mr. Ravi, who was elected to the Assembly four times since 2004 continuously, has been defeated by his former associate H.D.Thammaiah, who joined the Congress just a few days before the elections.

Most party-hoppers taste defeat

Girish Pattanashetti
HUBBALLI

Barring some, most of the leaders, who rebelled against their parties to contest on ticket of other parties have failed to impress the electorate and failed in the Karnataka Assembly election.

Among the party-hoppers, former Deputy Chief Minister Laxam Savadi stands out as he managed to win the election with a huge margin of 76,122 votes in Athani. Mr. Savadi had quit the party opposing BJP giving ticket to Mahesh Kumathalli, MLA.

Similarly, K.M. Shivalinge Gowda of the JD(S) who quit the party to contest on Congress ticket has won by a margin of 20,177 votes in Arsikere. BJP rebel N.R. Santosh, who contested on JD(S) ticket, ended up in second position here.

In Hirekerur, BJP leader U.B. Banakar quit the party and contested on Congress ticket and he has won the election defeating Minister B.C. Patil by a margin of 15,020 votes.

BJP's A. Manju, who contested on JD(S) ticket in Arkalgud, former MLA and BJP leader Nemaraja Naik who contested on JD(S) ticket in Hagaribommanahalli have won.

Former Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar, who rebelled against BJP high command and contested on Congress ticket, suffered a humiliating defeat in the election. He lost by a margin of 34,289 votes. In Hubballi-Dharwad East, former BJP MLA Virabhadrappa Halaharavi contested on JD(S) ticket and lost miserably. BJP's Ayanur Manjunath, who contested on Congress ticket, was defeated in Shivamogga. BJP's MLA M.P. Kumaraswamy who contested on Congress ticket after being denied BJP ticket lost in Mudigere.

In Jevargi, former MLA Doddappagowda Patil Naribol contested election on JD(S) ticket and lost. In Yallapur, BJP's V.S. Patil who contested on Congress ticket lost after giving a tough fight to Minister Shivaram Hebbar. Former Minister A.B. Malakaraddi, who had returned to Congress from BJP, contested on JD(S) ticket in Yadgir and has lost miserably. Former MLA Y.S.V. Datta, who quit JD(S) to join Congress, returned to JD(S) and lost.

(With inputs from Kumar Buradikatti)

Winners and losers

Big winners	Big losers
D.K. Shivakumar (Congress)	Jagadish Shettar (Congress)
Siddaramaiah (Congress)	V. Somanna (BJP)
Laxman Savadi (Congress)	B. Sriramulu (BJP)
Shamanur Shivashankarappa (Congress)	J.C. Madhuswamy (BJP)
Basavaraj Bommai (BJP)	Murugesh Nirani (BJP)
H.D. Kumaraswamy (JDS)	C.T. Ravi (BJP)
H.D. Revanna (JDS)	Govind Karjol (BJP)
G. Parameshwara (Congress)	Nikhil Kumaraswamy (JD-S)
R.V. Deshpande (Congress)	K.R. Ramesh Kumar (Congress)
B.Y. Vijayendra (BJP)	N.H. Shivashankar Reddy (Congress)

10 out of 185 women candidates emerge victorious in polls

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

Out of the 185 women candidates who contested in this year's State Assembly elections, 10 have emerged victorious including some women who were in the fray for the first time. The outgoing Assembly also had 10 women legislators.

Laxmi R. Hebbalkar, Roopakala M., and Shashikala Jolle are amongst the incumbent MLAs who lost. Kusuma H., the Congress candidate from Rajarajeshwari Nagar, put up a fight against Munirathna, who eventually won. In Belagavi Rural constituency, Ms. Hebbalkar of the Congress won with a huge margin of 56,016 votes against Nagesh Annappa Manolkar of BJP.

After losing the elections in 2013 from the same constituency, she has managed to score two consecutive wins in 2018 and 2023. For Ms. Roopakala, the Congress candidate from KGF and Kaneez Fatima from the same party (wife of ex-minister Qamar-ul- Islam) who contested in Gulbarga North, too, this would be a second term in the constituency.

At Nippani, Ms. Jolle, who was the Minister of Muzarai, Haj and Wakf in the BJP Cabinet managed to secure a narrow victory with a margin of just 7,401 votes. New face Nayana Motamma, former Congress Minister Motamma's daughter, also scored a narrow victory with a margin of just 722 votes in Mudigere constituency.

Among other first-time winners, Latha Mallikarjun (daughter of popular JD(S) leader the late M.P. Prakash), who stood as an Independent candidate in Harapanahalli, grabbed a 13,845 vote margin against G. Karunakara Reddy of BJP. Contesting from the key constituency of Mahadevapura, Manjula S., wife of incumbent MLA Aravind Limbavali, managed a comfortable win in the constituency with a 44,501 vote lead.

Senior Congress leader Anjali Nimbalkar was elected to Khanapur Assembly constituency in 2018, but this time she lost to Vithal Somanna Halagekar of the BJP by 54,629 votes.

Winning women candidates

Candidate	Constituency	Party
Laxmi R. Hebbalkar	Belgaum Rural	Congress
Kaneez Fatima	Gulbarga North	Congress
Latha Mallikarjun	Harapanahalli	Independent
Roopakala M.	KGF	Congress
Manjula S.	Mahadevapura	BJP
Nayana Motamma	Mudigere	Congress
Jolle Shashikala Annasaheb	Nippani	BJP
Sharada Puryanaik	Shimoga Rural	JD(S)
Bhagirathi Muralya	Sullia	BJP
Karemma	Deoadurg	JD(S)

Nine Muslims elected

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Representation of Muslims in the Karnataka Assembly has marginally increased in this election compared to the last.

As many as nine candidates were declared elected on Saturday, compared to the seven in 2018. That was a steep fall from the 11 Muslim MLAs who were elected in 2013. All of them are from the Congress. The JD(S) said 23 of its 211 candidates were Muslims, but none won. BJP did not field any Muslims.

Those elected include Rahim Khan from Bidar, U.T. Khader from Mangaluru, Tanveer Sait from Mysuru, Asif (Raju) Sait from Belagavi north, Rizwan Arshad from Shivaji Nagar, B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan from Chamarajpet, Kaneez Fatima from Gulbarga north, Iqbal Hussein from Ramanagara and N.A. Haris from Shanti Nagar. All of them have been re-elected, except Asif (Raju) Sait and Iqbal Hussein, who are entering the Assembly for the first time.

Cong. confident of Karnataka repeat in Telangana poll

30% commission BRS is similar to 40% commission BJP government, says Revanth Reddy

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

In a show of unity, all Telangana Congress leaders came on a single platform and announced that Karnataka results will repeat in Telangana that will go to polls in a few months.

Telangana Congress Committee president, A. Revanth Reddy, along with AICC in charge for Telangana Manikrao Thakare, and other leaders spoke to the media and said Karnataka defeated a communal and corrupt BJP government and the same would repeat in Telangana soon.

Mr. Reddy equated the Bharat Rashtra Samiti (BRS) government with the '40% commission BJP government' saying the BRS was 30% commission government as was revealed by Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao himself when he spoke of BRS MLAs collecting ₹3 lakh from every beneficiary of Dalita Bandhu scheme. "It is similar to 40% BJP government and CM KCR himself revealed this," he said.

He said Karnataka and Telangana had many similarities in a lot of aspects including culture. The Hyderabad-Karnataka region was part of the Hyderabad State and of the 41 Assembly seats there, Congress won a majority. Apart from that, several Telugu speaking districts in Karnataka also chose the Congress. "That impact will be here in Telangana."

NCB and Indian Navy make biggest ever drug seizure

In a joint operation, 2,500 kg of methamphetamine valued around ₹15,000 crore has been seized; the drugs has its origin in Pakistan and loaded to the mother ship from the Makran coast

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

Huge haul: The Narcotic Control Bureau and Navy have seized 2,500 kg of methamphetamine from Indian waters. THULASI KAKKAT

In what is claimed to be the biggest ever drug seizure in terms of monetary value by any anti-drug enforcement agency in the country, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) and the Indian Navy, in a joint operation, have seized around 2,500 kg of methamphetamine valued around ₹15,000 crore and originated from Pakistan from the Indian waters.

It is also the first interception of a mother ship carrying drugs by an Indian agency and a man suspected of Pakistani origin has been detained from the ship. The seizure is part of Operation Samudragupt targeting maritime trafficking of drugs aimed at making the Indian Ocean region free of narcotics.

"The operation has been initiated by inputs from sources developed by the Naval Intelligence and the NCB. As the assessment is still under way, the actual volume of drugs could be more," Sanjay Kumar Singh, Deputy Director General (Operations), NCB, told a press conference here on Saturday.

The drugs had its origin in Pakistan and was loaded to the mother ship from the Makran coast. The continuous intelligence collection and analysis resulted in the identification of a highly probable route that the mother ship would take. Officials have seized 134 sacks of suspected methamphetamine. The sacks had Pakistani inscriptions. The drugs, the detained person, and other items salvaged from the ship have been brought to the Mattancherry wharf in Kochi and handed over to the NCB for further action.

"The modus operandi is to halt the mother ship at a particular point at which the crew in the ship receives a message about the boat to which the drug is to be offloaded. Since, the mother ship itself has been intercepted, there is no information on any boat supposed to take delivery of it. The consignment has been meant for India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives. More arrests in the case are likely," said Mr. Singh

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Sunday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, sub-Himalayan West Bengal, coastal Karnataka, Kerala, Mahe and Lakshadweep

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	34.6	26.2	Kozhikode	0.2	37.2	28.1
Ahmedabad	—	44.7	24.8	Kurnool	—	40.1	28.3
Aizawl	—	29.0	21.2	Lucknow	—	40.6	23.5
Allahabad	—	42.2	23.6	Madurai	—	38.0	26.4
Bengaluru	—	31.0	22.6	Mangaluru	4	30.8	24.8
Bhopal	—	—	22.8	Mumbai	—	34.5	28.5
Bhubaneswar	—	35.5	26.4	Mysuru	—	36.0	22.0
Chandigarh	—	39.7	22.4	New Delhi	—	41.8	22.0
Chennai	—	38.1	29.6	Patna	—	39.2	28.0
Coimbatore	—	34.9	25.4	Port Blair	15	32.1	27.3
Dehradun	—	36.4	19.4	Puducherry	—	38.0	28.6
Gangtok	—	24.4	14.5	Pune	—	39.7	25.4
Goa	—	34.7	28.4	Raipur	—	40.2	25.3
Guwahati	—	36.6	21.8	Ranchi	—	35.2	22.3
Hubballi	—	38.0	23.0	Shillong	0.6	27.2	15.4
Hyderabad	—	39.7	25.0	Shimla	—	26.4	15.0
Imphal	0.2	27.8	20.3	Srinagar	—	22.4	10.9
Jaipur	—	43.5	26.3	Thiruvananthapuram	25	33.2	26.0
Kochi	—	32.6	27.2	Tiruchi	—	36.5	27.0
Kohima	—	24.0	17.0	Vijayawada	—	39.8	28.8
Kolkata	—	34.0	27.9	Visakhapatnam	—	34.1	28.2

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.41	..91	.28	...213	...187	
Bengaluru	.26	..11	100	78	87	
Chennai	127	..42	.13	64	49	
Delhi	.26	105	.44	...272	...333	
Hyderabad	.42	..79	.74	...129	...146	
Kolkata	.13	..22	.24	36	61	
Lucknow	...7	..80	.37	...269	...213	
Mumbai	.60	2	.51	38	...211	
Pune	108	144	116	...123	90	
Visakhapatnam	.16	.43	.22	48	96	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 318 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 21

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Severe heatwave conditions in A.P. from today: IMD

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

Andhra Pradesh is likely to experience severe heatwave conditions during the next four to five days as the maximum temperatures are likely to touch the season's peak.

Based on the maximum temperature forecast by the India Meteorological Department, the Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (APSDMA) has warned that 136 mandals in the State are likely to experience severe heatwave conditions, while heatwave conditions are likely to prevail in 173 mandals in State on Sunday.

Bommai quits

Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai tendering his resignation to Governor Thawaarchand Gehlot following the BJP's defeat in the Assembly elections, in Bengaluru on Saturday. ANI

Kalangummukal becomes Kerala's first fully insured ward

Navamy Sudhish
KOLLAM

Kalangummukal is a non-descript rural pocket in Kollam district of Kerala, mostly populated by underprivileged families. But now it will be State's first fully insured ward as its 1,382 residents in the 5-70 age group have been provided insurance coverage against accidental death and disability.

Village in Kerala in the grip of tiger fear

Hiran Unnikrishnan
PATHANAMTHITTA

Approached through lush green rubber plantations dotted with farm yards, Bathanimala is an outpost that straddles the border between the Periyar Tiger Reserve and Perunad grama panchayat in Kerala's Ranni. Barring a few stray incidents, humans and wild animals coexisted peacefully in this village until now. But the past couple of months have been different.

According to villagers, an aged tiger has developed the habit of lifting cattle from the sheds here during night. In a span of 40 days, the animal has feasted on three cows and a goat. The villages have been under constant fear that the tiger may eventually attack humans. All roads across this village get deserted by evening and people are locking up their cattle in safe shelters. The forest officials, meanwhile, have placed a cage inside a rubber plantation here, besides setting up camera traps at several locations. A 24-member special task force has been deployed to monitor its movement. "The tiger looks aged and suffers from dental problems. As it is unable to hunt, it is looking for easy prey," said Jayakumar Sharma, Divisional Forest Officer, Ranni. The intense undergrowth in the abandoned rubber plantations here, according to the official, has offered the tiger an ideal habitat outside the wild. "It appears to have sensed the presence of some trap and hence remains evasive. Accordingly, efforts are being made to naturalise the cage by camouflaging it using shrubs and foliage," the official added.

Over 2,000 sedative injections seized in Andhra Pradesh

The Hindu Bureau
VISAKHAPATNAM

In a major catch, officials from the City Task Force (CTF) raided a house and seized nearly 2,100 sedative injections at Allipuram in Visakhapatnam on Saturday.

The police reportedly nabbed three youth. Apart from the huge sedatives, the police have also recovered around 30 kg ganja.

Sources from police said that another key accused in the case is at large and teams have been formed to nab him. It was learnt that the Police Commissioner would reveal more details on Sunday.

TTD to tighten security at hill temple on Tirumala

The Hindu Bureau
TIRUMALA

The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has resolved to tighten security measures of checking and frisking devotees entering the temple on Tirumala for darshan.

The decision came after the incident of a devotee shooting a video of the Ananda Nilayam inside the temple came to light.

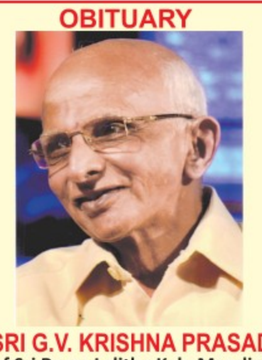
TTD Executive Officer A.V. Dharma Reddy has said that the temple management has invited experts from Central and State intelligence agencies to suggest ways to improve the security system at the hill temple.

He also said that the management would not hesitate to purchase modern security apparatus if required. He also said that strict action would be taken against those responsible for the security lapse.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

OBITUARY



SRI G.V. KRISHNA PRASAD
of Sri Rama Lalitha Kala Mandira
attained the lotus feet of the Lord
on Saturday, 13th May 2023.
Funeral will be held today in Wilson garden cremetorium at 12 noon.
-Bereaved family members.

IN LOVING MEMORY

PROF. M.S. SRINIVASAN
5th May, 2023 (97 years)

An educationist of excellence and formerly Additional Secretary at the Ministry of Education & Culture Govt. of India, Professor at IIM Bangalore and Chairman of BMS Engineering College – Bangalore.

Forever in our hearts
Wife Nirmala Srinivasan
Ashok, Shanthi, Meenakshi
and the entire family.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the General Public that my client has agreed to purchase 3 adjoining Sites bearing Nos. 1, 2, and 3 listed as **ITEM Nos. 1, 2, and 3** and collectively referred to as the **SCHEDULE PROPERTY** from its owner **SIDDARTH SARNAIK,** s/o Sri. RAVISHANKAR SARNAIK, No. 217, Sterling Orchards, 5th Cross Road, C. V. Raman Road, RMV 1st Stage, Sadashivanagar, Bangalore-560080. **IT IS HEREBY** called upon the General Public that if any person/ Institution is having any kind of claims, rights, or charges over any of the 3 sites constituting the SCHEDULE PROPERTY or any valid objections to the proposed sale transaction, the same be lodged along with supporting documents with the undersigned within **10 (Ten) days** from the date of this publication failing wherein it will be presumed that there are no claims, objections, etc., over the SCHEDULE PROPERTY or for its sale and thereafter my client shall complete the sale transaction. The claims, and objections, if any received after **10 days** shall not be binding on my client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM No. 1:
All that part and parcel of Vacant Residential Site No. **1**, Property No. 547/13/p/19/1, V. P. Khatha No. 150200203100600596, Old Khatha No. 547/563/13/p-19/1, comprised in 'BIAAPA' approved Layout, formed out of 2 Acres of residentially converted land bearing Survey No. 13/p19 of Tarabanahalli Village, Jala Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, presently within the limits of Meenukunte Village Panchayath, measuring East to West 39.90 Meters, North to South 24.34 Meters, totally measuring 971.16 Square Meters, & bounded on:
East by : Road, West by : Survey No. 13/p18,
North by : Site No. 2, South by : Road

ITEM No. 2:
All that part and parcel of Vacant Residential Site No. **2**, Property No. 548/13/p/19/2, V. P. Khatha No. 150200203100600597, Old Khatha No. 548/564/13/p-19/2, comprised in 'BIAAPA' approved Layout, formed out of 2 Acres of residentially converted land bearing Survey No. 13/p19 of Tarabanahalli Village, Jala Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, presently within the limits of Meenukunte Village Panchayath, measuring East to West 39.90 Meters, North to South 24.34 Meters, totally measuring **971.16 Square Meters,** & bounded on:
East by : Road, West by : Survey No. 13/p18,
North by : Site No. 3, South by : Site No. 1

ITEM No. 3:
All that part and parcel of Vacant Residential Site No. **3**, Property No. 549/13/p/19/3, V. P. Khatha No. 150200203100600598, Old Khatha No. 549/565/13/p-19/3, comprised in 'BIAAPA' approved Layout, formed out of 2 Acres of residentially converted land bearing Survey No. 13/p19 of Tarabanahalli Village, Jala Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, presently within the limits of Meenukunte Village Panchayath, measuring East to West 39.90 Meters, North to South 24.34 Meters, totally measuring **971.16 Square Meters,** & bounded on:
East by : Road, West by : Survey No. 13/p18,
North by : Site No. 4, South by: Site No. 2

Sd/-
SANTOSH KUMAR. H. DESHPANDE.
Advocate, SHRI LAW CHAMBERS,
AST Complex, 19 th Main, 1 st N Block,
Rajajinagar, Bangalore- 560010./ **Ph: 98440 05045**
Bangalore,
Date: 13-05-2023

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
SALEM DIVISION
Office of the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, Electric Loco Shed, Erode
E-TENDER NOTICE No. SA_A_RS_ED_OT_23_24_3, Dated: 11.05.2023
Online tenders are invited for the following work: **Description of Work:** Mandatory Energy Audit of Traction Services in Southern Railway as per Energy Conservation Act, 2001. All details regarding the tender are available at **https://www.ireps.gov.in**
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer, Rolling Stock, Erode. (For and on behalf of the President of India)
Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

INDIAN RAILWAYS
RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION
TENDER NOTICE No. ETR-252-RE-OT-02
For and on behalf of the President of India, Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer, Railway Electrification, Chennai Egmore, invites e-tenders for the following works. The tenders shall be submitted online up to **15.00 hrs** on **15.06.2023** through website **www.ireps.gov.in**
Bidders will be able to submit their original / revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored and summarily rejected.
EMD and Tender Forms Cost (TFC) are to be paid online through IREPS Portal **(www.ireps.gov.in)** and no manual payments will be accepted for these tenders.
Name of the Work: Leading, loading, transportation of steel structures and other Railway materials by road from any depots in Indian Railways, any depots under Chief Project Director, Railway Electrification, Chennai to Railway Electrification work in progress and CDMS/RE/GOC, under Chief Project Director, Railway Electrification. Egmore, Chennai, App. Cash Value in (₹): **52,08,526/-**, Earnest Money Deposit (₹): **1,04,200/-**, Period of Completion in Months: **Twelve.**
Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) and the tender documents are available in the website **www.ireps.gov.in** and the tenderers are advised to refer the same. Tenderers are also advised to quote their rates inclusive of GST.
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उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे G20
ई–निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
मंडल रेल प्रबंधक, गति शक्ति, उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे, जोधपुर द्वारा भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिये एवं उनकी ओर से ई–निविदा के माध्यम से प्रचलित नियमों के अन्तर्गत निर्धारित प्रपत्रों में निविदा निम्न कार्यों के लिए क्रमानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती हैं– **ई–निविदा सूचना सं. 2023–24 : 07, कार्य का नाम व स्थान** : Extenscion of DEMU shed in connection with Homing MEMU rakeat Merta Road of Jodhpur Division. **अनुमानित लागत रूपये** : रू. 10,83,85,953.11, **बयाने की राशि रूपये** : रू. 6,91,900.00, निविदा सूचना संख्या GSU-07 of 2023-24 निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि 05.06.2023 को 15.00 बजे तक है। वेबसाईट का विवरण जहाँ पर ई–निविदा देखी व भरी जा सकती है– www.ireps.gov.in
508-PR/23
हमें /NWRailways NWRailways_ पर फॉलो करें

INDIAN RAILWAYS
RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION
TENDER NOTICE No. RE/MS/CIVIL/2023-05 Dated: 10.05.2023
For and on behalf of the President of India, Deputy Chief Engineer, Railway Electrification, Chennai, Egmore, invites e-tenders for the following works. The tenders shall be submitted online up to **15.00 hrs** on **05.06.2023** through website **www.ireps.gov.in**
Bidders will be able to submit their original / revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored and summarily rejected.
Name of the Work: Proposed construction of independent pier nearby cut water portion of various water way major bridges for providing OHE Bridge mast in Shoranur - Nilambur Road Section in Palakkad Division of Southern Railway. Approx. Cash Value in (₹): **2,96,90,428.73/-**, Earnest Money Deposit (₹): **2,98,500.00/-**, Period of Completion in Months: **Six months.**
Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) and the tender documents are available in the website **www.ireps.gov.in** and the tenderers are advised to refer the same. Tenderers are also advised to quote their rates inclusive of GST.
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SOUTHERN RAILWAY
Thiruvananthapuram Division
E-TENDER NOTICE No. V/TRD-OT/03/2023-24, Dated: 12.05.2023;
For and on behalf of The President of India, the Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRD) / Thiruvananthapuram invites Online tenders for the following work. Name of work: Provision of Vande - Bharat train set maintenance facilities with OHE wiring in ERMCD - TRD portion of work.
Tender Value: ₹ **11630757.98;** Period of completion: **120 days;** Earnest Money Deposit: ₹ **2,08,200.00;** Date and Time of Tender closing : **08.06.2023 @ 14.00 hrs;**
Complete Details and Tender document will be available at **http://www.ireps.gov.in**
Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
MATERIAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT- TIRUCHCHIRAPPALLI DIVISION (STORES BRANCH)
E-Tender Notice for the Supply of Stores No. TPJ/Division/E/4/2023
The following E-tender has been publlished in IREPS website, Firms are requested to login to **http://www.ireps.gov.in** -> login -> E.tender -> Goods & services (new) and Quote against the tender. Manual quotations will not be entertained. **Sl.No. 1;** Tender No: **95225430;** Description: **Off Track Tamper;** Due Date: **22.05.2023**
Senior Divisional Materials Manager / Tiruchchirappalli
Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004
Tender Notice No. - PCE/BLW(ET)/Publish/2022-23/8P **Date : 08.05.2023**
E-TENDER
Dy Chief Engineer/Colony, Banaras Locomotive Works , Varanasi on behalf of the President of India invites "Open" Tender **through E-Tendering** from the contractors. **S.N.:** 1, **Tender No.:** BLW-WAT-ET-004 RT6-20-21, **Name of Work:** Provision of two Tubewell as standby for tank no. 5 & 9 in colony under SSE/W/ET & Provision of two Tube well as standby for tank no. 7 & 12 in workshop under SSE/W/WS, **Tender Cost (Rs)** : 2,11,79,601.09, **Earnest Money (Rs):** 2,55,900.00, **Time of Completion:** 9 Month, **Closing Date of Tender:** 31/05/2023At 15:00 pm, **Date of opening of Tender:** 31/05/2023At 15:30 pm, **Special Notice -** To see the detailed terms & conditions of tender and for submission of tender, please visit website: **http:www.ireps.gov.in**
PR/BLW/C-02 **Dy Chief Engineer/Colony**
/blwvaranasi **Website: blw.indianrailways.gov.in**

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
CONSTRUCTION ORGANIZATION
E-TENDER Notice No. DYCE-GC-I-TPJ-02-2023
For and on behalf of the President of India, the Deputy Chief Engineer, Gauge Conversion-I, Southern Railway, Tiruchchirappalli invite E-Tender for the following works as per notice inviting tender (NIT) e-Tender Portal **www.ireps.gov.in** The tenderers intending to apply for the tender need to get enrolled in the portal **www.ireps.gov.in** and only online tenders will be accepted. e-Tender Form shall be issued free of cost to all tenderers. The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) should be made through online payment gateway available in the website by the way of multiple bank's net banking, debit card and credit card.

Name of Work: 1. Replacement of type -II staff quarters- 64 units, 8 blocks of 8 units in GF and FF with staircase, inside, outside watering and drainage arrangements,(as per plan No. SQ/2/15-B) Compound wall and Approach road at Kallukuzhi Colony, Tiruchchirappalli (PB item no. 925 of 2016-17)-Balance Works.

Item No.	Advertised Value in ₹	Cost of EMD (₹)	Period of completion in months	Closing/Opening date @ **15.00 hrs** on
1	**3,24,56,917.27**	**3,12,300.00**	**Nine (9) Months**	**05.06.2023**

For further details refer to website portal **www.ireps.gov.in** or contact office of the Deputy Chief Engineer, Gauge Conversion-I, Southern Railway, SBI Road, Trichy - 620 001.
Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

From Page One

Congress surge topples BJP in Karnataka

In 2018, the BJP won 104 seats, but fell short of a majority. After the collapse of the coalition government led by H.D. Kumaraswamy, the BJP came to power in 2019 following defections by 14 MLAs from the Congress and three from the JD(S).

The Karnataka outcome will boost the Congress' prospects in the upcoming Assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh, where both parties will directly face off in the Hindi heartland. The BJP, which had linked its fortunes to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's charisma by decimating its own State leadership, will be forced to rework its centralised campaign strategy over the coming months.

The Karnataka results have also sent out a powerful message to the party's sceptical allies in the United Progressive Alliance (UPA), that it is not yet a spent force. This victory will put the Congress, and especially its former president Rahul Gandhi, as the central character of Opposition politics nationally.

It remains to be seen how the Congress will take forward this victory, and how it will try to project the victory into other States where it is not the principal opponent of the BJP. How it will hammer it out with regional partners is a crucial factor to track as the country shifts gear to the campaign for the 2024 general election.

Stability factor

The main challenges before the Congress are providing stability in the State – which has seen three Chief Ministers in the past five years – and implementing its election manifesto of five "guarantees" catering to the welfare of lower income communities in the run-up to the general elections, which is just a year away.

In terms of vote share, the Congress increased its vote from 38.04% in 2018 to 42.91 in 2023, while the BJP's vote share declined marginally from 36.22% to 35.97. The JD(S) vote share fell sharply from 18.36% in 2018 to 13.3% in 2023.

Winners and losers

Some of the prominent winners are Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai from Shiggaon; former CM Siddaramaiah from Varuna; KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar from Kanakapura; H.D. Kumaraswamy, Channapatna; B.Y. Vijayendra, Shikaripura; R.V. Deshpande from Haliyal; and G. Parameshwara, from Koratagere.

Among the high-profile candidates who lost are former Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar (Congress) in Hubbali Central, Assembly Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri and 12 Ministers in the Bommai government. The defeated Ministers are Govind Karjol, B. Sriramulu, V. Somanna, J.C. Madhuswamy, Murgesh Nirani, B.C. Patil, K. Sudhakar, MTB Nagaraj, Narayana Gowda, B.C. Nagesh, Halappa Achar, and Shankar Patil Munekoppa.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai submitted his resignation to Governor Thawar Chand Gehlot late on Saturday evening. He will continue as a caretaker CM until his successor is sworn in.

Narwekar to decide after everyone gets 'fair chance'

The process of settling the matter on a party, whip or petitions cannot be rushed, says Maharashtra Speaker after SC directs him to complete proceedings within a 'reasonable period'

Sonam Saigal
MUMBAI

It is not possible to hurry the process of deciding on a political party and its Whip and hearing all the disqualification petitions, Maharashtra Assembly Speaker Rahul Narwekar said on Saturday.

On Thursday, the Supreme Court said Mr. Narwekar's decision of cancelling the approval of Ajay Choudhari (of *Maha Vikas Aghadi*) as Leader of the Shiv Sena Legislature Party while authorising the appointment of Mr. Shinde, was "contrary to law".

The court directed Mr. Narwekar to recognise the whip and leader who are duly authorised by the Shiv Sena, and decide on the disqualification proceedings (by 16 members of the Legislative Assembly) within a "reasonable period".

Talking to *The Hindu*, Mr. Narwekar enlisted the questions before him. "The moot question is to first decide as to who represents the political party. On that basis, I will have to decide who the whip is, in accordance with the political party. Then, I will have to get into the merits of multiple disqualification petitions," he detailed.

> The hearing will start soon. The Election Commission took almost four months while the courts took around nine months. We cannot hurry the process
> **RAHUL NARWEKAR**
> Maharashtra Assembly Speaker

Procedural steps

"All the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure will be applicable – leading of evidence, examination of the chief, cross-examinations, verification and so on. Only then will I be able to come to a decision after giving everyone a fair chance," he said.

"The hearing will start soon. The Election Commission of India took almost four months while the courts took around nine months. We cannot hurry the process," he added.

The apex court on Thursday held Mr. Nawekar's decision of recognising Bharat Gogawale (of Eknath Shinde camp) as the new chief whip "illegal", and stated that Sunil Prabhu (of the MVA) was appointed by the political party Shiv Sena but not the Legislature Party as the chief whip.

Internal rebellion

On June 21, 2022, Mr. Shinde, Leader of the Shiv Sena in the Maharashtra Assembly, suddenly left Mumbai with many other Sena MLAs for Surat. This rebel group later went to Guwahati.

Following the disqualification, proceedings were issued against the first batch of 16 MLAs and a notice was served on them. This group was granted 48 hours' time to respond to the said notice.

The next day, the group led by Mr. Shinde filed a petition in the Supreme Court challenging the proceedings against the 16 MLAs.

Karnataka DGP Praveen Sood to be next Director of CBI

Sandeep Phukan
Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Praveen Sood

Karnataka Director-General of Police Praveen Sood will be the next Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) after his name was finalised on Saturday by a three-member panel comprising Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, and Leader of the Opposition (Congress) in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury.

Though there was no official word on the selection, it is learnt that Mr. Chowdhury submitted a dissent note against Mr. Sood's name as he was not among the original panel of officers who were shortlisted for the top CBI job. A source said his name was included at the last minute. The name of the empanelled officers are shared with the panel members ahead of the meeting.

The other senior IPS officer who was in the reckoning for the position was the DGP of Madhya Pradesh Sudhir Saxena.

Mr. Sood is a 1986-batch IPS officer of the Karnataka cadre. He was appointed DGP three years ago. He hails from Himachal Pradesh and is an alumnus of IIT-Delhi. He was to retire in May 2024, but will now get a two-year fixed tenure and be in office till May 2025 at least.

In March, senior Congress leader D.K. Shivakumar had hit out at Mr. Sood for being incompetent and accused him of being a stooge of the BJP government in Karnataka.

BJP wins big in U.P. local body polls; victory signifies faith in pro-people policies, says CM

Mayank Kumar
LUCKNOW

The BJP on Saturday registered a resounding victory in Uttar Pradesh's Urban Local Body elections, winning, or leading in, all the 17 Mayoral seats, and a majority of 1,420 councillor seats in municipal corporations, and member seats across Nagar Panchayats and Nagar Palika Parishads.

As per the latest data available, the BJP won 30 out of 544 Nagar Panchayat chairman seats and was leading in more than 200. Of 1,420 councillors seats in Municipal Corporations, the party won or was leading in more than half the seats. In the Prayagraj Municipal Corporation, out of 100 seats whose results have been declared, the BJP won 56, Samajwadi Party (SP) 16, Independents 19, the Congress won four seats, and AIMIM and the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) won two seats each.

Major milestone: Yogi Adityanath congratulated the people of the State for choosing a triple-engine government. SANDEEP SAXENA

The saffron party candidate Bihari Lal Arya from Jhansi became the Mayor after winning with a margin of over 83,000 votes. In Prayagraj, the BJP's Ganesh Kesarwani defeated the SP's Ajay Srivastava by a thumping margin of over one lakh votes.

Ajay Singh won the post of Mayor in Saharanpur Municipal Corporation, Girishpati Tripathi won from Ayodhya, Manglesh Srivastava from Gorakhpur, Ashok Tiwari from Varanasi, Pramila Pandey from Kanpur, Prashant Singhal from Aligarh, Harikant Ahluwalia from Meerut, Archana Verma from Shahjahanpur, Sushma Kharwal from Lucknow, Umesh Gautam from Bareilly and Sunita Dayal from Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation.

The SP came second on 10 out of 17 Mayoral seats, while in the remaining seven seats – including Agra Municipal Corporation – the BJP defeated the BSP whose candidates came second.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, who leads the BJP's campaign by holding 50 rallies across the State, thanked the voters for forming a triple-engine government. "Heartiest congratulations to all the dedicated and hardworking workers of U.P. BJP and the citizens of Uttar Pradesh, on the resounding victory of the BJP in the Uttar Pradesh local body polls. This emphatic victory reflects the successful guidance of respected Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi *ji* and immense public faith in the pro-people, developmental and inclusive policies of the double-engine government," he said.

State BJP president Bhupendra Singh Chaudhary called the victory a symbol of public's faith towards the developmental policies of the double-engine BJP government.

The SP, however, alleged rigging in counting at various places and demanded immediate action by the Election Commission. "How about one lakh more votes were counted during the counting of votes in the Gorakhpur mayoral election? Government should clarify. Election Commission should take cognizance of the malpractices done with the democratic process," said the SP, in a statement.

Govt. starts training of medical staff for Haj 2023

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Minority Affairs Minister Smriti Irani on Saturday inaugurated the training programme for the administrative and medical contingent selected to serve Haj pilgrims in Saudi Arabia this year.

A 468-member team – 339 medical professionals and 129 personnel for administrative duties – has been chosen for the training to facilitate the movement of 1.75 lakh pilgrims.

The Ministry said it had received a record 4,314 applications from women who plan to travel without a male guardian (mehram).

This year, there is a direct involvement of the Health Ministry and its agencies for the medical screening of pilgrims, their vaccination.

Gaganyaan: Parachutes for re-entry capsule sent to ISRO facility

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Gaganyaan crew module will carry three astronauts as part of India's first human space flight programme. FILE PHOTO

Indigenously developed parachutes for the safe return of the capsule that will carry astronauts under the proposed Gaganyaan programme are set to undergo fitment tests at an Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) facility in Bengaluru in July.

The Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE), the Agra-based laboratory under the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), has developed the parachutes for India's manned space flight programme, Gaganyaan, which envisages putting a crew of three astronauts in low-earth orbit.

On Saturday, the flight unit of the parachutes was flagged off from ADRDE to the ISRO Satellite Integration and Testing Establishment in Bengaluru.

"The first test demonstration is likely to take place in July this year, with the first unmanned mission to be undertaken only after the success of two such demonstrations," the ADRDE said in a statement. The Test Vehicle Demonstration (TVD-1) flight will be a significant milestone toward realising the nation's ambitious Gaganyaan programme, it stated.

The parachute configuration consists of 10 parachutes. During flight the sequence starts with deployment of two parachutes of "apex cover separation parachute", which is protection cover for the crew module parachute compartment, followed by two more of "drogue parachute deployment" to stabilise and bring down the velocity. Upon the drogue parachute release, three parachutes of the "pilot parachute" system will be used to extract three parachutes of the "main parachute" individually, to reduce the speed of the crew module to safe levels during its landing, the statement explained.

Stating that each parachute's performance must be evaluated by complex testing methods, the ADRDE said that individual parachutes have undergone sub-system level testing.

'Over exploitation' of groundwater is silently sinking the ground beneath India's feet, show studies

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Cracks in buildings and 'sinking' land in Joshimath, a hill town in Uttarakhand, made the headlines earlier this year. A similar phenomenon has been playing out for years in the plains of Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and Faridabad. The unlikely culprit is excessive groundwater extraction.

Agricultural practices in northwest India are heavily dependent on groundwater withdrawal. With limited monsoon rain, the groundwater table is precariously low, show data gathered for years by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB).

In Punjab, for instance, 76% of the groundwater blocks are 'over exploited'. In Chandigarh it is 64% and about 50% in Delhi. This means that more groundwater than can be recharged is extracted.

"Over time, when the underlying aquifers (deep water channels that are stores of percolated water) aren't recharged, they run dry and the layers of soil and rock above them start to sink," Prof. Dheeraj Kumar Jain of the Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad, said.

Mr. Jain, whose core research interests lie in mining and minerals, said digging operations that were carried out hundreds of metres below the ground for coal, oil and gas through the years had shown examples of 'soil settlement,' or the soil sinking in to fill voids created from mining.

"From here we surmised that if oil and gas extraction cause subduction (sinking), then surely groundwater also ought to be playing some role. We found such instances in several parts of the world and that motivated some of my students to assess the situation in India, particularly the National Capital Territory."

Source of worry: Farmers survey a dry well, once a major irrigation source, in Fatehpur village of Patiala district in Punjab. FILE PHOTO

Assesing groundwater

The CGWB, a subsidiary body of the Jal Shakti Ministry, is tasked with assessing the state of India's groundwater resources. It has a system of groundwater observation-wells and monitors water levels four times a year. It, however, does not analyse the consequences of 'over exploitation.'

"The link between excessive groundwater extraction and land subsidence only started to become clear thanks to data from the GRACE (Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment) satellites that could measure minute changes in gravity on different parts of the earth's surface," V.K. Gahlaut, chief scientist, National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad, said. Mr. Gahlaut earlier published a research paper linking groundwater extraction to subsidence in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, an evidence that the issue was not specific to north India alone.

Subduction in parts of Haryana, Punjab and Delhi is as high as 7-12 cm a year, but a reversal is possible if aquifers are left to charge

Correlation

"Unlike land movement from landslips or earthquakes, subsidence from groundwater extraction was gradual and barely visible annually. So, it is harder to correlate with structural damage," he added.

However, a wealth of studies in recent years, all of them obtained from satellite-based analysis of ground movement, from institutions and researchers that specialise in satellite-data analysis have correlated building deformities with groundwater withdrawals.

Kapil Malik, a research scholar who worked with Mr. Jain and runs the Noida-based Radar System and Services, used data from the Sentinel-1 satellite (different from GRACE) to show that from 2011-2017, the National Capital Region (NCR) sunk, on an average, 15 mm per year. Urbanisation and unplanned growth were major factors, said Mr. Malik and this exacerbated groundwater withdrawal.

Parts of Delhi-NCR that saw subsidence were far away from tectonic (earthquake-linked) fault lines.

Parts where the underlying aquifer contained groundwater saw no subsidence. However, other parts of the city where the sub-surface held no water showed signs of sinking.

"We have also observed that Dwarka in Delhi, which saw subsidence, actually saw a reversal when aquifer levels were charged following rainwater harvesting practices that were implemented," Mr. Malik said.

Instances of structural damage were noted in Dera Bassi, Landran, Singhpura in Punjab, and Ambala in Haryana, according to a study published in 2021 by scientists at the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Dehradun, who reported land subsidence of nearly 7-12 cm per year and groundwater extraction rates of 46 cm to 236 cm annually.

Mr. Malik said there was little awareness among structural engineers and civil engineers on the role of groundwater extraction. "In most cases, adhering to building codes should take care of resulting damage, but the role of groundwater extraction can't be ignored," he added.

Over exploited groundwater blocks and land subsidence has been reported in Kolkata and parts of eastern India too. "There needs to be greater recognition that groundwater exploitation has consequences other than water scarcity," Mr. Gahlaut added.

U.P. Assembly byelections: BJP ally wrests Suar from SP, keeps Chhanbey

In Suar of Rampur, Apna Dal (Sonelal) candidate Shafeek Ahmed Ansari wins against SP's Anuradha Chauhan; the seat had fallen vacant due to the conviction of then MLA Abdullah Azam Khan, son of SP leader Azam Khan

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

The Apna Dal (Sonelal), an ally of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Uttar Pradesh, on Saturday won both the Assembly seats – Suar and Chhanbey – in the State, to which byelections were held on May 10.

In the high-profile constituency of Suar in Rampur, the Apna Dal(S) candidate, Shafeek Ahmed Ansari, won by a margin of 8,724 votes against his nearest rival, Anuradha Chauhan of the Samajwadi Party (SP).

While Mr. Ansari polled 68,630 votes, Ms. Chauhan polled 59,906 votes. The byelection was necessitated by the conviction of then MLA Abdullah Azam Khan, son of SP leader Azam Khan.

In Chhanbey, where the byelection took place following the demise of Apna Dal(S) MLA Rahul Prakash Kol, Rinki Kol, wife of the late leader, registered victory for the party by a margin of around 10,000 votes against SP candidate Kirti Kol. The Apna Dal(S) candidate polled 76,203 votes against the SP nominee who got 66,616 votes.

On winning track: Apna Dal (Sonelal) candidate Rinki Kol (second from left) showing the victory sign after filing her nomination for the Chhanbey Assembly byelection. PTI

The defeat in Suar is seen as a major jolt to Azam Khan, who campaigned extensively for the party nominee Anuradha Chauhan, a Hindu candidate in a constituency having a sizeable Muslim electorate. The Apna Dal(S) fielding Mr. Ansari, a Pasmanda Muslim, was considered one among the many latest attempts by the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) in reaching out to this backward subgroup, which forms a majority within the Muslim population in the State. In the 2022 Assembly election, the Apna Dal(S) had fielded Haider Ali Khan from the seat.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath congratulated the NDA cadres for the victory, and described it as a symbol of unwavering public trust in the good governance established by the double-engine government on the basic mantra of "*Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas*".

"Heartiest congratulations to all the hardworking workers and respected voters for the grand victory of the BJP alliance in the byelections held in Suar and Chhanbey Assembly seats. This victory achieved under the successful guidance of respected Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji is a symbol of unwavering public trust in the good governance established by the double engine government working on the basic mantra of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas," he tweeted.

Karnataka result offers a lesson for BJP, Congress in a packed polling season

Varghese K. George
NEW DELHI

NEWS ANALYSIS

The outcome in Karnataka has set the tone for national politics in the run-up to the 2024 Lok Sabha election when Prime Minister Narendra Modi will seek a third straight term in power. The Congress has defeated the BJP in two States – Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka – in a span of five months. Later this year, the Congress and the BJP will battle for Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh.

In Karnataka, the Congress effectively tackled the BJP framework of politics, which is a combination of welfarism, caste representation and Hindutva. Between D.K. Shivakumar and Siddaramaiah, the Congress pushed back against two allegations that the BJP usually raises: that it is hostile to the Hindu faith, and its Anglicised liberalism does not accommodate backward castes while it "appeased" the Muslims. Mr. Shivakumar is a religious Hindu who does not mince words when it comes to speaking up for Muslims; Mr. Siddaramaiah is a champion of caste justice. Added to this combination was the relentless campaigning by party president Mallikarjun Kharge, who is a Dalit from the State. Rahul Gandhi openly spoke about caste justice in Karnataka, a historic first for the Congress.

The BJP tried to expand its social base among various castes and may have succeeded to some extent, but the Congress still could outsmart it. The Congress did not shy away from questioning exclusions based on both caste and religion. The BJP's model of caste inclusiveness and religious exclusiveness faced a major setback.

For the Congress, the question is whether it can replicate the same dynamics in the coming Assembly elections. PTI

The Congress organised its campaign better than the BJP, which is very rare. Two general secretaries of the party, K. C. Venugopal and Randeep Surjewala, who is also in charge of the State, kept factionalism in check and messaging on track for an extended period of time and stayed put in the field.

Mr. Venugopal, who is now in charge of the organisation, was in charge of the State during the 2018 Assembly election, and the coordination between the two galvanised the party. Mr. Surjewala's affable but assertive style resolved several flare-ups between the two doyens in the State Congress through the election season. Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra had stirred up the party in Karnataka, and the momentum was sustained into the election. Mr. Kharge's own team of advisers such as Syed Naseer Hussain and Gurdeep Sappal kept close tabs on the campaign at a granular level. In contrast, the BJP was struggling to get its campaign in order, and its messaging was muddled in the face of an anti-incumbency trend.

For the Congress, the question is whether it can replicate the same dynamics in terms of leadership, ideological framework and coordination between State and national leadership in the forthcoming Assembly elections. The outcome in Karnataka will potentially quell rebellions in the Congress units of Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan, and encourage dissidence in BJP units.

The BJP will have to decide whether it will encourage State leaders to take charge in Assembly elections or keep all campaigns dependent on Mr. Modi's charisma and whirlwind tours.

An equally important lesson for the BJP to ponder is about its capacity to reach out to linguistic minorities. Karnataka should also spur the BJP to accommodate particularities of a place than offer a national magic potion.

If the BJP should draw the lesson that its tricks in the Hindi heartland and the west may not work in other States, its opponents should be aware that Karnataka's outcome is not necessarily an indicator of what might happen in saffron strongholds.

Also, Assembly elections are no indicators of parliament outcomes. The Congress was wiped out in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan in the 2019 Lok Sabha election, barely six months after it won the Assembly elections in those States.

Karnataka outcome supports the theory that triangular contests are disappearing fast, at the constituency level and the State level. The JD(S) may find it difficult to survive without power for five years. Single caste-, single family-driven politics is the most delegitimised form of politics at the moment, and similar parties in other parts of the country could draw appropriate lessons from the crossroads that the JD(S) is currently at.

Breaching the Congress bastion of Jalandhar, AAP gets a spring in its step

Vikas Vasudeva
CHANDIGARH

The Congress turncoat Sushil Kumar Rinku, who joined the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) a few days ahead of the Jalandhar Lok Sabha byelection in Punjab, on Saturday won the election for his new party by defeating the nearest rival of the Congress.

Mr. Sushil, a former Congress MLA, won the Jalandhar Lok Sabha seat by securing 3,02,279 votes. He defeated the Congress's Karamjit Kaur Chaudhary by 58,691 votes. Ms. Chaudhary got 2,43,588 votes.

The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) candidate, Sukhwinder Kumar Sukhi, got 1,58,445 votes to stay in third place. He was the joint candidate of the SAD and the Bahujan Samaj Party (BJP). The Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) candidate, Inder Iqbal Singh Atwal, secured 1,48,000 votes to remain at the fourth spot.

Time to revel: AAP supporters celebrate after Sushil Kumar Rinku takes lead in the Jalandhar Lok Sabha byelection, on Saturday. ANI

The bypoll result has come as a jolt for the Congress as the Jalandhar Lok Sabha seat has traditionally been its stronghold. Out of a total of 18 Lok Sabha elections, the Congress has won the seat 14 times and lost just four times. Since 1999, the Congress had not lost the seat.

For the ruling AAP, the win came as a respite as the byelection was being keenly watched against the backdrop of the party's popularity, as it has been in power for over a year in the State and sought votes on its 'performance' and 'policies'.

The byelection result has come as another setback for the SAD (Badal), which was seeking to make a political comeback with its alliance partner - Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP). For the SAD, which faced a drubbing in the 2022 Punjab Assembly election and later in the bypoll in Sangrur parliamentary constituency, the loss is another grim reminder of the crisis that is staring at it.

For the BJP, which had faced farmer's wrath in the backdrop of the three farm laws, the bypoll result has not been encouraging as its candidate lost the security deposit.

Daughter of slain Minister wins big in Odisha byelection

The Hindu Bureau
BHUBANESWAR

The Biju Janata Dal (BJD) on Saturday registered a landslide victory in the Jharsuguda Assembly byelection. The seat was lying vacant following the murder of then Health and Family Minister Naba Kishore Das.

Deepali Das, daughter of the slain leader and BJD candidate, defeated Tankadhar Tripathy of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) by a huge margin of 48,721 votes. Ms. Das secured 1,07,198 votes while Mr. Tripathy got 58,477 votes. Congress candidate Tarun Pandey trailed at a distant third with only 4,496 votes.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik spoke to Ms. Das and congratulated her on the victory. Ms. Das said the victory belonged to the people of Jharsuguda and those who were associated with her father.

The former Health Minister was shot dead by an assistant sub-inspector of police in Brajarajnagar on January 29.

It was the BJD's sixth bypoll victory in Odisha after the 2019 Assembly election. It earlier won the Assembly byelections in Bijepur, Balasore, Tirtol, Pipili and Brajarajnagar constituencies.

SUDOKU

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

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Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	2	9	3	7	4	1	6	5
6	5	7	8	1	2	4	3	9
1	3	4	9	6	5	2	7	8
4	9	3	1	8	7	5	2	6
7	1	2	5	4	6	9	8	3
5	8	6	2	9	3	7	4	1
2	7	5	6	3	1	8	9	4
9	6	1	4	2	8	3	5	7
3	4	8	7	5	9	6	1	2

Karnataka result not surprising: Assam CM

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Saturday that the Karnataka Assembly election result was not surprising. However, the CM said the BJP won in most of the constituencies he visited during the campaigning.

"It was certain from the discussions over the past two or three months that the BJP would not be able to put up a good performance," he said.

The BJP formed the government in Karnataka after displacing the Congress, and the general feeling this time was that the BJP may not make it, Dr. Sarma said. He said he was not aware of any move by the BJP to forge an alliance with the JD(S).

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Last date for submission of Online Applications	15.06.2023

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Notice Inviting Short Term Bids
On behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan, online tender are hereby invited from eligible bidders for the work of as per criteria mentioned in the detailed NIT/Tender document available on website: http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in & http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in. Tender are to be submitted online in electronic format on website http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in for the following works-

Short Term NIT No	Work description	Estt. cost	Last date of submission	SPPP UBN No
04/23-24	Work of Pkg-3 of Chambal Dholpur Bharatpur Project (Retrofitting) for providing FHTCs in villages and their OHs of Roopbas, Uchhain, Bharatpur (Sewar) and Kumher blocks of District Bharatpur under JJM including 10 years O&M	232.30 Crores	23.5.2023	
05/23-24	Work of Pkg-4 of Chambal Dholpur Bharatpur Project (Retrofitting) for providing FHTCs in villages and their OHs of Deeg-Nagar-Kaman-Pahari blocks of District Bharatpur under JJM including 10 years O&M	291.32 Crores	23.5.2023	

NIT No-05/2023-24
UBN No- PHE2324WLOB01681
DIPR/C/6905
(H.K. Agrawal)
Additional Chief Engineer (Project)
PHED Bharatpur

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, PWD CIRCLE, PRATAPGARH
Email: sepratap@gmail.com Tel. No. 01478-294178
No. 65 Date 4-5-2023
Corrigendum Notice Inviting Bid No. 07/2022-23
NIB code PWD2223A4982
Bids for 6 works of road works are invited from interested bidders upto 6:00PM of 19/05/2023 Other particulars of bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) of the Rajasthan state; and departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 1604.00 lakhs.
UBN No. PWD2223WSOB20289, PWD2223WSOB20290, PWD2223WSOB20291, PWD2223WSOB20292, PWD2223WSOB20293, PWD2223WSOB20294
Superintending Engineer
DIPR/C/6670 PWD Circle, Pratapgarh

Website - pwd.rajasthan.gov.in E-mail :- acezoneii@yahoo.com
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER PWD, ZONE-II, JAIPUR, PWD Campus, Jacob Road, Opp. Jaipur Club, Jaipur
Ph. : 0141-2226537
No. 217 Dated 05/05/23
Corrigendum of NIT No. 40/2022-23
In the NIT No. 40/2022-23 issued by this office the date of online submission of Bid is extended upto 18.05.2023 at 6.00 PM due to amendment in compliance to circular issued by the Chief Engineer and Addl. Secretary, PWD Rajasthan, Jaipur. Technical Bids will be opened on 19.05.2023 at 2.00 PM in respective office. Details of Corrigendum/circulars can be seen on http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in & http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in
Other conditions of the tender will remain unchanged.
UBN:

S. No	UBN No.	S. No	UBN No.	S. No	UBN No.	S. No	UBN No.
1	PWD2223WLOB20300	3	PWD2223WLOB20346	5	PWD2223WLOB20372	7	PWD2223WLOB20422
2	PWD2223WLOB20343	4	PWD2223WSOB20350	6	PWD2223WLOB20073	8	PWD2223WLOB20388

Additional Chief Engineer
DIPR/C/6815 PWD Zone-II, Jaipur

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत बून्दी
क्रमांक: केशियर/212 दिनांक: 03.05.2023
निविदा सूचना संख्या 04/2023-24
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डीआईपीआर/सी/6615/2023

KARNATAKA VERDICT 2023

> The landmass of Dravidian family stands clear of BJP. Now let us all work together to win 2024 to restore democracy and constitutional values in India

M.K.STALIN
Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

> The message from Karnataka is that the end of BJP's communal, corrupt, rich-oriented, anti-women and anti-youth, socially-divisive and individualistic politics has begun

AKHILESH YADAV
Samajwadi Party president

> This is the beginning of the end of the BJP before 2024 Lok Sabha polls. People have voted against the arrogance and intolerance of the BJP

MAMATA BANERJEE
Chief Minister of West Bengal

> A ray of hope is being seen today. I hope people across the country will reject communal politics and vote for the country's development and prosperity

MEHBOOBA MUFTI
Peoples Democratic Party leader

> People have rejected the 'With Modi everything is possible' slogan. The picture is now clear that people are rejecting the structure where one person holds all the strings

SHARAD PAWAR
NCP president

Triumphant Congress looks at battles ahead

Congress exudes confidence after spectacular victory in Karnataka; party credits the template of five guarantees, Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra and local leadership for the emphatic win

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

Winning in style: Congress supporters celebrate outside a party office in Bengaluru as it emerged as a clear winner in the Karnataka Assembly election on Saturday. K. MURALI KUMAR

The power of the poor people defeated the might of crony capitalists and it will be repeated in other elections, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi announced hours after his party wrested Karnataka from the BJP on Saturday.

"I am happy we contested the Karnataka polls without using hate, bad language. We fought the polls with love. In Karnataka, *nafrat ka bazaar* (market of hate) has closed down and *mohabbat ki dukaanein* (shops of love) have opened," Mr. Gandhi said to loud cheers from party workers and bursting of firecrackers at the Congress headquarters.

The result is the Congress's best performance since 1999 in the State, when S.M. Krishna became the Chief Minister after the party won 132 seats. The spectacular win for the Congress, riding on its campaign of five guarantees, has provided some key lessons for the next round of Assembly elections Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.

"It was during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, from the many conversations @RahulGandhi had with the people of Karnataka, that the guarantees and the promises in our manifesto were discussed and finalised," Jairam Ramesh of the Congress tweeted. According to data shared by Mr. Ramesh, of the 20 Assembly constituencies that the yatra passed through, the Congress won 15 seats.

The Congress campaign mostly focussed on the leadership of Basavaraj Bommai and contrasted it with that of Siddaramaiah and D.K.Shivakumar.

Though Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge's "venomous snake" comment at Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the party manifesto's promise of decisive action against the Bajrang Dal were being used aggressively by the BJP to charge the Congress with insulting Lord Hanuman and hurling abuse at Mr. Modi, the party, instead of responding, stuck to its campaign of "misgovernance" and "40% commission sarkara" against the BJP. Though much will depend on the Congress's performance in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan polls, the Karnataka win will give the party a boost to reclaim its position as a rallying point for Opposition parties in the run up to the 2024 polls. Trinamool's Derek O' Brien and Bahujan Samaj Party's Danish Ali were among those who tweeted that the Karnataka results would have a bearing in the next Lok Sabha polls.

With the defeat in Karnataka, BJP back to square one in south India

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

Counting one's losses: Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai during an election campaign on May 8. ANI

As soon as the definitive trends started emerging on Saturday, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai conceded defeat to the Congress in the Karnataka Assembly election, and said the BJP would learn from its mistakes and plan for the 2024 Lok Sabha election. For the party, this election was just as existentially important as it was for the Congress as Karnataka was its only bastion in southern India, and its rule there was a strong argument to fight the perception of the BJP being a party of Hindi speakers.

The loss in Karnataka will hit the BJP because of the perception that it is a largely north Indian party, out of touch with the political and cultural sensibilities of the southern States. Some of the messages from the Chief Ministers of southern States have touched upon those themes.

The BJP Karnataka unit may well say that it will learn from the mistakes and the party may do well in 2024 in the State as it did in the Lok Sabha election in 2019 winning 24 of the 28 seats due to the popularity of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. But for the national leadership, the problem goes beyond that.

The first challenge for the BJP in the wake of the Karnataka result will be in Telangana, where the Assembly election will be held later this year.

In the 2019 election, the BJP won four Lok Sabha seats in the State. The party has been on an aggressive campaign pitch for the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation election, Assembly byelections and the Assembly election. Internal meetings of the BJP with Telangana leaders has shown that the party has very few of its own candidates for the Assembly seats, and the byelections that it won in Huzurabad and Dubbak had candidates who started their political life with the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), formerly Telangana Rashtra Samithi.

The party was nursing the idea that a defeat for the Congress in Karnataka could lead to wholesale defections to the BJP in Telangana, demoralising the Congress further and making the BJP, if not a winner, then at least the official number two party in the State. That battle seems more of an uphill task after the Karnataka results.

Lok Sabha battle

The southern States account for 140 Lok Sabha seats. The BJP has 28 of them as of now (29, if one counts Mandya Lok Sabha MP Sumalatha Ambareesh, an Independent candidate supported by the BJP).

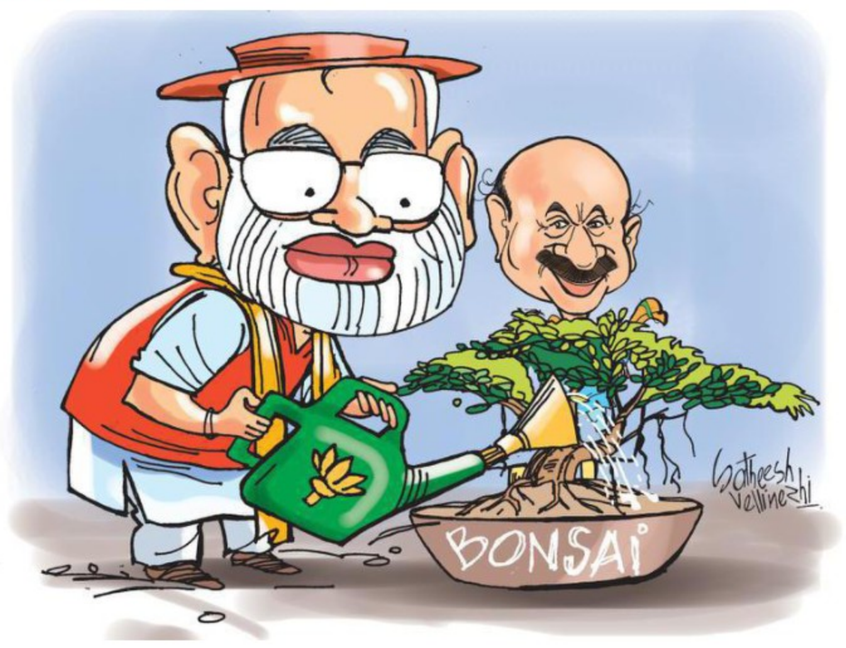
With the BJP's alliances in Bihar and Maharashtra broken, the party has been casting a wide net for the next Lok Sabha election in areas where newer seats can be won. For the past few months, senior BJP leaders have been hobnobbing with cultural icons and social sector leaders of the southern States, especially in Telangana, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, to fight the perception of being a party from the Hindi belt.

The absence of a large social group sticking to the BJP, as the Lingayats had done in Karnataka starting in the late 1990s, has hobbled the BJP's efforts.

The Karnataka results, with the Congress beating the BJP on an intensely local campaign with strong overtones of regionalism versus Delhi, including the Amul versus Nandini milk cooperative controversy, does not appear to look good for the party in the southern States.

The irony in the situation is that the BJP claims that it is a party with a national footprint, but it will have to identify hyper locally with each of the southern States to make any headway, which will be a tricky balancing act.

On the draw



Several Ministers swept aside by Cong. wave

B.S. Satish Kumar
BENGALURU

A dozen Ministers who held prominent portfolios have lost their seats in the Karnataka Assembly, brought down by the anti-BJP wave that swept through the State in this election. In a debacle that has shocked the BJP, as many as 12 of them – including veteran Dalit leader and Major Irrigation Minister Govind Karjol, who had earlier worked as Deputy Chief Minister – have lost.

The BJP's Adivasi icon and Transport Minister, B. Sriramulu, who was a vote puller in Scheduled Tribe (ST) constituencies, has also lost this time. This has come as a shock for the BJP which was trying to win over the ST and Scheduled Caste (SC) communities by increasing reservation for them. The party is also finding it difficult to digest the defeat of sugar baron and Large and Medium Industries Minister Murugesh Nirani, who was a strong aspirant for the Chief Ministerial post. Mr. Nirani belongs to the dominant Lingayat community and the influential sub-sect of Panchamashali. The fact that he has lost in the Lingayat heartland (Bilagi) that forms the main support base of the BJP will force the party's think tank to introspect about its strategies.

Loss of Lingayat leaders

Another Lingayat Minister who lost was Housing Minister V. Somanna, who had been pitted against Congress stalwart Siddaramaiah in the Varuna constituency of Mysuru district. Others from the Lingayat community – Law Minister J. C. Madhuswamy, who used to aggressively defend the party from the Opposition onslaught in the legislature; Agriculture Minister B.C. Patil; and Sugar Minister Shankar Patil Munenakoppa – also suffered losses. Revenue Minister and Vokkaliga leader R. Ashok who had been pitted against Congress State president D.K. Shivakumar in Kanakapura, lost miserably as the Congress leader won by a huge lead of over one lakh votes. However, Mr. Ashok has managed to win comfortably from his home constituency of Padmanabhanagar.

Other Ministers who lost include Health and Medical Education Minister K. Sudhakar, who was the government's face during the COVID-19 pandemic; Primary and Secondary Education Minister B.C. Nagesh, who had initiated revision of school textbooks; Mining Minister Halappa Basappa Achar; and Sports Minister K. C. Narayana Gowda, who was the party's lone face in the Vokkaliga heartland of Mandya. In addition to this, senior BJP leader and Speaker Vishveshwara Hegde Kageri, who is a six-time MLA, and M.P. Renukacharya, who was the Chief Minister's political secretary, also faced defeat.

BJP tripped on experiments with caste matrix

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

The BJP's experiments to tinker with the reservation matrix months before the Karnataka Assembly election, along with a series of decisions that are believed to have riled the Lingayat community, appear to have backfired on the party as the poll outcome indicates.

The party was already on the backfoot over the demand for reservation by the Panchamsalis, the numerically stronger Veerashaiva-Lingayat subsect. The "forced" stepping down of Lingayat strongman B.S. Yediyurappa from the post of Chief Minister seems to have been further cornered it, alongside the ignominious exits of former Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar and former Deputy Chief Minister Lakshman Savadi.

The powerful land-owning community of the north Karnataka region appears to have backed the Congress this election, with 34 Veerashaiva-Lingayats getting elected on Congress ticket as opposed to only 18 on BJP ticket.

In the 2018 Assembly election, 38 BJP legislators were Veerashaiva-Lingayats, following the row over the movement for a Lingayat religion that resulted in the Congress having only 16 Veerashaiva-Lingayat legislators.

Reservation gimmick

Another big loss for the BJP came from reserved constituencies for Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST).

Tinkering with the SC internal reservation was resented by the communities and resulted in sporadic violence. While the BJP government claimed credit for taking a "historic decision" on increasing the quota matrix, it fell short of providing a framework to back it against any legal challenge, a point that was raised repeatedly in the run-up to the elections. The Congress recorded big wins in the reserved constituencies, taking 22 out of 36 constituencies reserved for SCs, up from 12 in 2018, and 14 of the 15 constituencies reserved for STs, up from eight in 2018.

The numbers game: The BJP's caste and community calculations failed to bring success. FILE PHOTO

The elevation of Mallikarjun Kharge as the All India Congress Committee president is also believed to have worked in favour of the Congress as Dalit communities in both the Left and the Right are believed to have voted for the Congress.

Minority votes

The perceived threat to Muslims under the BJP government, which took a number of controversial decisions, including a ban on the hijab, the anti-conversion Bill, the anti-cow slaughter Bill and eventually, the scrapping of 4% reservation to Muslims, appears to have consolidated the minority votes in favour of the Congress. While the Janata Dal (S) was hoping to get a chunk of the minority votes to boost its tally, this does not appear to have worked out.

While the BJP does have a large base in the Vokkaliga-dominated region, its presence has dropped to six seats from nine seats earlier, though it had offered reservation to the community.

PM's push did little to turn the tide in many constituencies

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU/BELAGAVI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi headlined the BJP's campaign in Karnataka, pitching for a "double-engine government", with the same party in power at the Centre and the State. He held over 20 rallies and roadshows in the State after election was announced.

An analysis of the results in these constituencies show that his rallies seem to have had little impact, except for his three roadshows in Bengaluru.

Of the 17 other locations where the PM held rallies and roadshows, the BJP won only five seats. The Congress won in 13 places and the JD(S) in two.

For instance, in seats such as Shivamogga Rural, Kudachi in Belagavi, Kolar, Vijayanagar, Chitradurga, Sindhanur, Kalaburagi, Karwar, Kittur, Nanjangud, Channapatna, Badami and Haveri seats, where Mr. Modi held rallies, the BJP lost. Of the PM's rally locations, the BJP won in Humnabad in Bidar, Bijapur City, Belur in Hassan, Mudabidri, and Tumakuru Rural. In Bengaluru, where he held three mega roadshows, the party has maintained *status quo*.

'Mandate against PM'

Congress leader Siddaramaiah said the mandate was against the PM. "I have always maintained that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will have no impact in the State. That has been borne out in the results." A senior BJP leader, who did not wish to be named, conceded that the campaign by the PM probably backfired.

"It is clear that people of Karnataka prefer a campaign focused on local State-level issues for Assembly elections," said a BJP functionary, adding that the State has time and again shown that it votes differently in Lok Sabha elections.

Another senior BJP leader said that the party had deployed the PM, along with Union Minister Amit Shah and U.P. CM Yogi Adityanath in several Old Mysuru districts, to make inroads into the region in view of the Lok Sabha election.

The BJP has improved its vote share in the Old Mysore region, though it has failed to convert those votes into seats.

Siddaramaiah
INC (Varuna)
WON

D. K. Shivakumar
INC (Kanakapura)
WON

H.D. Kumaraswamy
JD(S) (Channapatna)
WON

Basavaraj Bommai
BJP (Shiggaon)
WON

Winning hand

The Congress secured Karnataka with a comfortable majority on the back of an all-round peformance, propelled by strong support in rural regions, poorer districts and reserved seats. While Bengaluru and the coastal region continued to favour the BJP, it was not enough to compensate for the losses suffered by the party elsewhere. The JD(S) suffered a major setback in its stronghold – south Karnataka – while its weak urban base suffered further erosion. **By Jasmin Nihalani, Vignesh Radhakrishnan, Rebecca Varghese, Sonikka Loganathan** and **Srinivasan Ramani**

1 Congress, an all-rounder: The Congress enhanced its vote share across urban, semi-urban, semi-rural and rural seats, by securing over 40% votes in each and also among reserved (SC/ST) seats. This led to a good showing across all five regions - Bengaluru, South & Malnad, Coastal, Hyderabad/Kalyana and Mumbai/Kittur & Central

2 BJP limited to urban areas: The Bharatiya Janata Party continued its dominant performance in urban areas by securing over 45% votes, especially in Bengaluru and also in the coastal regions. However, it lost over 3 percentage points in rural areas and over five points in ST reserved seats

3 Shrinking base of the JD(S): The Janata Dal (Secular) secured only 26.1% votes in its traditional stronghold — the south Karnataka/Malnad region — 8.6 points lower than in 2018. The party which was already weaker in urban areas (only 14.1% urban votes in 2018), suffered a further setback in these areas with its vote share reducing to just 5.9%

Seats won/lead and vote %

The Congress won/lead in 135 seats in 2023, 56 more than its tally in 2018. It also increased its vote share by 4.9 percentage points (%p). While the BJP's vote share remained almost the same, its tally decreased by 39 seats

	Seats won		Vote share	
	2023	↓↑	2023	↓↑ %p
INC	135	+55	42.9%	+4.9
BJP	66	-39	36.0%	-0.3
JD(S)	19	-18	13.3%	-5.0
Oth.	4	+1	7.8%	+0.4

Seats gained and held

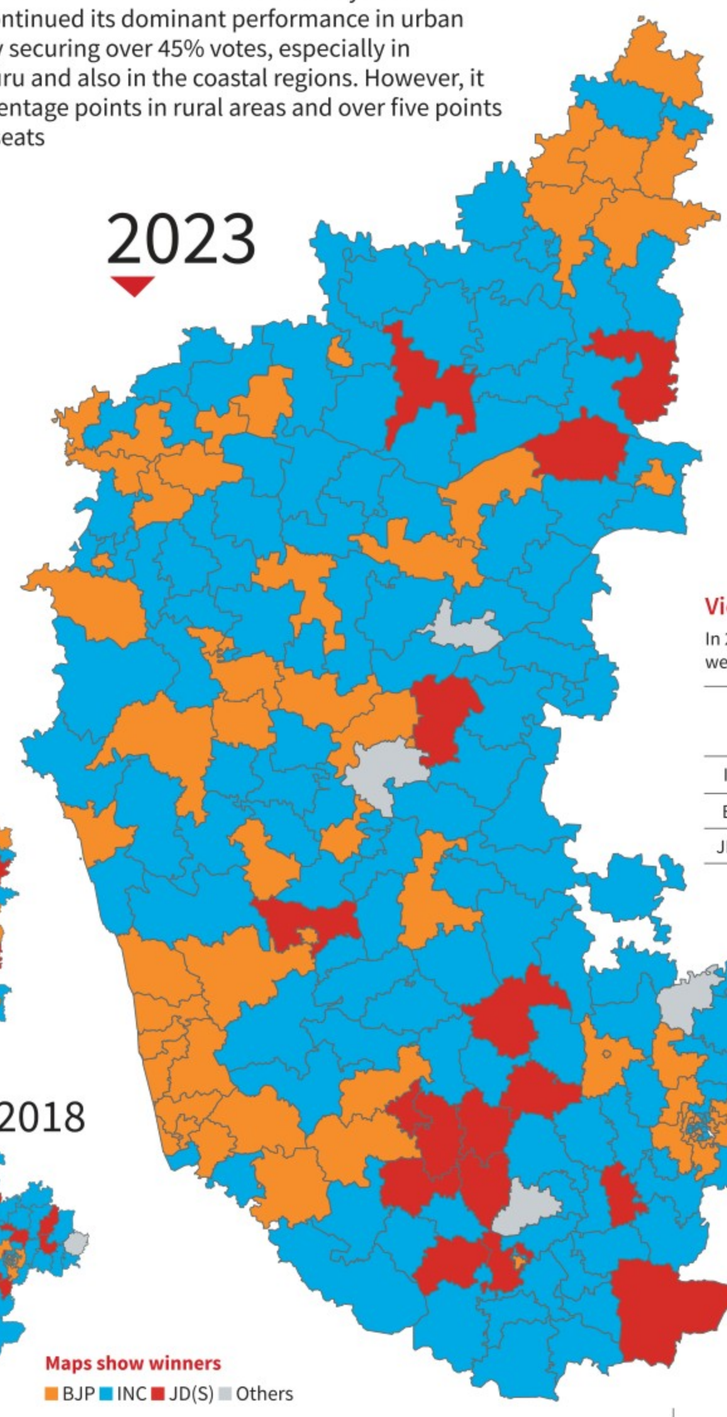
Of the 135 seats won/lead by the Congress, 59 were "holds" (won by them in 2018), while 53 and 22 were gained from the BJP and the JD(S)'s seats won in 2018. The BJP gained just 17 seats from INC and held 43 seats

	INC	BJP	JD(S)	Oth.	Won
INC	58	53	22	2	**135**
BJP	17	43	6	—	**66**
JD(S)	4	6	8	1	**19**
Oth.	1	2	1	—	**4**

Strike rates

The Congress achieved a much higher strike rate with turncoats from other parties with 69.6% of them winning, while the BJP's strike rate was 5.6%. Strike rate is the number of seats won by candidate-types as a percentage of the seats contested by them

Candidate-type	INC	BJP
Debutants	30.5%	20.0%
Recontestants	72.0%	33.6%
Turncoats	**69.6%**	**5.6%**
Sitting MLAs	79.4%	40.4%



Maps show winners
BJP INC JD(S) Others

*Results as of 12.25 a.m. on Sunday

Hypothetical alliance

If the BJP and the JD(S) were in a pre-poll alliance and assuming that they managed to garner votes cumulatively rather than what they individually received in this election, we find that the alliance would have won 130 of the 224 seats. A similar analysis for the Congress and the JD(S) is also presented in the table

Region	INC	BJP+JD(S)	INC+JD(S)	BJP
Karnataka	**90**	**130**	**168**	**52**
Bengaluru	11	17	15	13
Coastal	3	16	7	12
Hyderabad/Kalyana	18	21	34	5
Mumbai/Kittur & Central	35	28	46	17
South & Malnad	23	48	66	5

Victory margin

In 2023, 33 seats were decided with a wafer-thin margin of less than 2.5% votes. In 2018, there were only 23 such seats. So the races were tighter in 2023

	<2.5%		2.5-5%		5-10%		10-20%		20-30%		>30%	
	2023	↓↑	2023	↓↑	2023	↓↑	2023	↓↑	2023	↓↑	2023	↓↑
INC	17	+1	13	-4	35	+17	45	+24	16	+11	9	+6
BJP	13	+8	13	-1	14	-24	14	-19	6	-5	6	+3
JD(S)	3	+1	2	-5	8	+1	6	-6	—	-7	—	-2

Rural-urban vote share (%)

While Congress gained votes across all types of seats, the increase in vote share was higher in rural areas (up by 6 points) while the BJP's vote share fell 3.6 points. The BJP managed to gain 3.7 points in urban areas

	Urban v%		Semi-urban v%		Semi-rural v%		Rural v%	
	2023	↓↑	2023	↓↑	2023	↓↑	2023	↓↑
INC	43.0%	+3.8	40.6%	+1.3	44.3%	+6.6	43.2%	+6.2
BJP	45.7%	+3.7	36.7%	+1.0	28.7%	+0.7	36.9%	-3.6
JD(S)	5.9%	-8.2	15.0%	-4.4	18.5%	-5.3	11.4%	-3.7

Seats and various vote share ranges

The Congress secured more than 50% votes in 69 seats, 43 more than last time. The BJP managed to do so in only 34 seats

	<20%		20-35%		35-50%		>50%	
	2023	↓↑	2023	↓↑	2023	↓↑	2023	↓↑
INC	15	-4	25	-26	114	-12	69	+43
BJP	39	-1	50	+10	101	+5	34	-14
JD(S)	145	+30	25	-11	37	+4	2	-15

Region wise vote %

Congress gained vote share across all regions. BJP gained the most in Bengaluru (+5.4 points), followed by South Karnataka/Malnad (+3.1 points). The Congress became the top party in the Mumbai/Kittur (BJP stronghold) and central region, by securing 44.6% votes. In 2018, the BJP had secured 44.2% votes in the region, which came down to 39.7% in 2023. In the south, the Congress became the top party by securing 40.8% of the votes, taking over the JD(S)'s mantle as the leader

	INC		BJP		JD(S)	
Regions	2023	↓↑ %p	2023	↓↑	2023	↓↑
Bengaluru	40.7%	+1.0	46.4%	+5.4	7.8%	-7.7
Coastal Karnataka	42.4%	+2.3	48.5%	-3.1	3.8%	-0.2
Hyderabad/ Kalyana Karnataka	46.4%	+4.2	35.8%	-3.4	10.5%	-1.4%
Mumbai/Kittur Karnataka & Central Karnataka	44.6%	+5.9	39.7%	-4.5	5.3%	-2.9
South Karnataka & Malnad Region	40.8%	+6.5	25.5%	+3.1	26.1%	-8.6

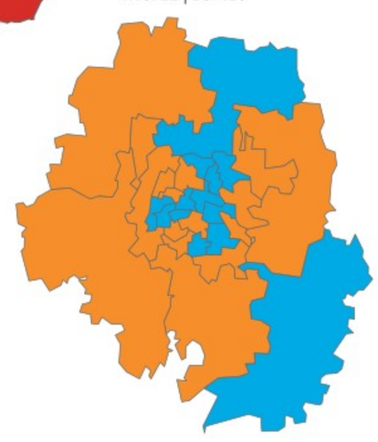
MYSURU
Total seats: 4 | INC: 2 | BJP: 1 | JD(S): 1

MANGALORE
Total seats: 3
INC: 1 | BJP: 2

HUBLI
Total seats: 3
INC: 1 | BJP: 2

BELGAUM
Total seats: 3
INC: 2 | BJP: 1

BENGALURU CITY
Total seats: 28
INC: 12 | BJP:16



Top milk producing districts

Following the Amul vs Nandini row, the top milk producing districts clearly favoured the Congress with the party increasing its vote share by 5.3 points

	2023	↓↑
INC	40.2%	+5.3
BJP	27.9%	+1.3
JD(S)	23.5%	-6.3

Effective no. of parties (Enop)

80% of seats featured a bipolar contest between two effective parties in 2018. This number increased to 81.4% in 2023

Enop	Uncompetitive/ bipolar	Triangular/ fragmented
2023	81.4%	18.6%
2018	79.3%	20.7%
2013	51.8%	48.2%
2008	46.4%	53.6%

Muslim presence

Congress secured 42.5% votes in the top five districts with the highest share of Muslim population (2.1 points up from 2018). However, the BJP also garnered 44.5% of the votes, similar to its 2018 performance

	2023	↓↑ %p
INC	42.5%	+2.1
BJP	44.5%	+0.3
JD(S)	5.5%	-3.9

Reserved seats

Congress gained big in the seats reserved for STs, by securing 47.7%, 9.8 points higher than its 2018 figures. The BJP lost the most in ST seats, with its vote share decreasing by over 5 points

	General seats		SC seats		ST seats	
	2023	↓↑%p	2023	↓↑	2023	↓↑
INC	42.2%	+4.3	44.6%	+5.5	47.7%	+9.8
BJP	36.7%	+0.5	32.7%	-2.1	34.8%	-5.1
JD(S)	13.2%	-5.8	15.2%	-1.9	9.9%	-2.9

Unpacking trends seen in the 2023 Karnataka Assembly Elections | Data Point podcast

The Hindu goes deeper into the Karnataka election results, by looking at a regional, a rural/urban, and a socioeconomic break-up of the mandate, among other factors.

Poorest districts

The Congress's vote share improved by 2.9 points in the top five poorest districts of Karnataka (in terms of per capita income). The BJP's vote share decreased by over 3.5 points, the most among the three major parties

	2023	↓↑%p
INC	44.8%	2.9
BJP	38.4%	-3.5
JD(S)	7.2%	-1.0

Sources

- The seats were identified as urban and rural constituencies by using nightlights data from Development Data Lab.
- The Muslim share in districts were sourced from the 2011 Census. The per capita income was sourced from the Economic Survey of Karnataka.
- Turncoats, repeaters, freshers and incumbents were identified using news reports and Trivedi Centre For Political Data's political career tracker and past election results were from LokDhaba.

REGION-WISE RESULTS

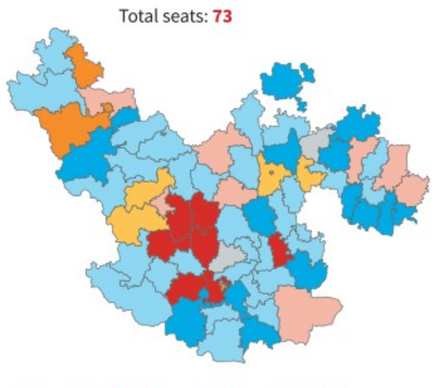
Total seats (leads/wins): **28**

Bengaluru: Gains & holds

Of the 15 seats won/lead by the BJP in Bengaluru, 10 were holds and 3 were gains from the Congress. INC managed to retain 12 and gained 1 from BJP

	INC	BJP	JD(S)	Oth.	Won
INC	11	1	—	—	**12**
BJP	4	10	2	—	**16**
JD(S)	—	—	—	—	**0**
Oth.	—	—	—	—	**0**

Total seats: **73**

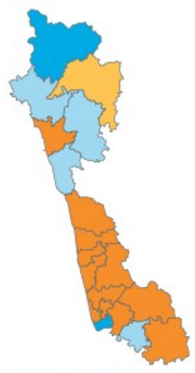


South & Malnad: Gains & holds

Of the 47 seats won by the Congress in the region, 12 were gains from the BJP and 18 were from the JD(S)

	INC	BJP	JD(S)	Oth.	Won
INC	16	12	18	1	**47**
BJP	1	5	3		**9**
JD(S)	3	4	7	1	**15**
Oth.	1		1		**2**

Total seats: **19**



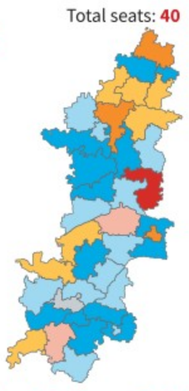
Maps show gains and holds
BJP holds BJP gains
INC holds INC gains
JD(S) holds JD(S) gains
Others

Coastal: Gains & holds

Of the 13 seats won by the BJP, 12 were holds and one was gained from the Congress, which gained four from the BJP, while holding two

	INC	BJP	JD(S)	Oth.	Won
INC	2	4	—	—	**6**
BJP	1	12	—	—	**13**
JD(S)	—	—	—	—	**0**
Oth.	—	—	—	—	**0**

Total seats: **40**

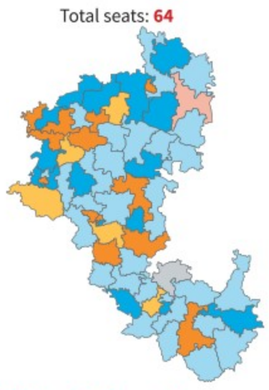


Hyderabad/Kalyana: Gains & holds

Of the 26 seats won by the Congress in the region, 10 were gains from the BJP, two from JD(S) and 14 were holds

	INC	BJP	JD(S)	Oth.	Won
INC	14	10	2	—	**26**
BJP	6	3	1	—	**10**
JD(S)	1	1	1	—	**3**
Oth.	—	1	—	—	**1**

Total seats: **64**



Mumbai/Kittur & Central

Of the 44 seats won by the Congress in the region, 26 were gains from the BJP and 2 from the JD(S) while 15 were holds. Of the 18 won by the BJP, 13 were holds

	INC	BJP	JD(S)	Oth.	Won
INC	15	26	2	1	**44**
BJP	5	13	—	—	**18**
JD(S)	—	1	—	—	**1**
Oth.	—	1	—	—	**1**

RAWALPINDI

Raid leaves civilian, 7 troops, 6 militants dead: Pakistan Army

FILE PHOTO

A raid on militants in Pakistan's southwest in response to an earlier attack on soldiers left seven troops, six militants and a civilian dead, the Army said on Saturday. The operation continued for two days after a group of militants attacked a camp of soldiers in the Qila Saifullah district of northern Balochistan province on Friday. AP

VATICAN CITY

Zelensky arrives at Vatican for a private audience with the Pope

AFP

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky arrived at the Vatican on Saturday for what was expected to be a private audience with Pope Francis. The 86-year-old pontiff has repeatedly called for peace in Ukraine following Russia's invasion in February 2022, including offering to mediate with Moscow. AFP

KHARTOUM

Blasts rock Khartoum as warring sides affirm humanitarian pledge

AFP

Air strikes pummelled Khartoum on Saturday, with representatives of Sudan's warring factions meeting in Saudi Arabia for talks to prevent a "humanitarian catastrophe" as the fighting entered a fifth week. More than 750 people have been killed and hundreds of thousands displaced since fighting erupted on April 15. AFP

MANILA

Philippine court acquits top critic of ex-President's 'war on drugs'

AFP

A Philippine court on Friday acquitted former senator Leila De Lima, one of the fiercest critics of ex-President Rodrigo Duterte, of a charge stemming from allegations that as a Cabinet Minister she received money from drug dealers. However, Ms. De Lima will not immediately be released due to another case still in court. REUTERS

Myanmar, Bangladesh brace for Cyclone Mocha

It is expected to make landfall on Sunday morning between Cox's Bazar, where 1 million Rohingya refugees live in camps largely made up of flimsy shelters, and Sittwe on Myanmar's Rakhine coast

Agence France-Presse
SITTWE

Run for life: People being evacuated on a truck in Myanmar's Rakhine on Saturday, ahead of the landfall of Cyclone Mocha. AFP

Thousands fled Myanmar's west coast and officials in neighbouring Bangladesh raced to evacuate Rohingya refugees on Saturday as the most powerful cyclone in the region for over a decade churned across the Bay of Bengal.

Cyclone Mocha was packing winds of up to 220 km per hour, according to India's meteorological office, equivalent to a category four hurricane.

It is expected to weaken before making landfall on Sunday morning between Cox's Bazar, where nearly one million Rohingya refugees live in camps largely made up of flimsy shelters, and Sittwe on Myanmar's western Rakhine coast.

On Saturday, Sittwe residents piled possessions and pets into cars, trucks and tuk-tuks and headed for higher ground, according to reporters. "We have our grandma in our family and we have to take care of her," Khine Min said from a truck packed with his relatives on a road out of the state capital.

"There is only one man left in Sittwe to take care of our homes."

Shops and markets in the town of about 1,50,000 people were shuttered, with many locals sheltering in monasteries.

Myanmar's junta authorities were supervising evacuations from villages along the Rakhine coast, state media reported Friday. Myanmar Airways International said all its flights to Rakhine state had been suspended until Monday.

In neighbouring Bangladesh, officials moved to evacuate Rohingya refugees from "risky areas" to community centres, while hundreds of people fled a top resort island. "Cyclone Mocha is the most powerful storm since Cyclone Sidr," Azizur Rahman, the head of Bangladesh's Meteorological Department, said.

That cyclone hit Bangladesh's southern coast in November 2007, killing more than 3,000 people and causing billions of dollars in damage.

Bangladeshi authorities have banned the Rohingya from constructing permanent concrete homes, fearing it may incentivise them to settle permanently rather than return to Myanmar, which they fled five years ago.

Forecasters expect the cyclone to bring a deluge of rain, which can trigger landslides. Most of the camps are built on hillsides, and landslips are a regular phenomenon in the region.

Palestinian militants, Israel trade fire in Gaza

Associated Press
GAZA CITY

Israel and Palestinian militants unleashed salvos of fire for a fifth day on Saturday, with the Islamic Jihad militant group launching dozens more rockets and the Israel pounding targets inside the Gaza Strip.

Missile shrapnel that slammed into an agricultural community in Israel's southern Negev desert severely wounded two Palestinians from Gaza in their 40s who had been working in Israel and moderately wounded another man, medics said.

Late Saturday, Egypt's *Al-Qahera* channel said a cease-fire would take effect. However, there was no immediate comment from Israeli PM.

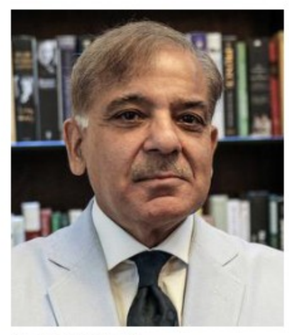
Sharif wants those who incited violence arrested

Reuters
KARACHI

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif ordered authorities on Saturday to identify and arrest all those involved in violent acts after former Prime Minister Imran Khan's arrest this week sparked deadly unrest.

Mr. Khan departed the court premises late Friday night and headed towards his hometown Lahore amidst high security, after a court granted him bail. His arrest in a land fraud case on Tuesday, which the Supreme Court ruled "invalid and unlawful" on Thursday, sparked violent protests by his supporters.

They stormed military establishments, set ablaze a state broadcaster building, smashed buses, ransacked a top Army official's house and attacked other assets, leading to nearly 2,000 arrests and the Army being deployed in multiple cities.



Shehbaz Sharif

Widespread chaos

At least eight people were killed in the violence, a spasm of unrest in a country that is facing economic crisis, with record inflation, anaemic growth and delayed IMF funding.

Mr. Khan, who was expected to address his followers virtually later on Saturday, on Friday welcomed the court's bail order and said the judiciary was Pakistan's only protection against the "law of the jungle".

"I must say I expected this from our judiciary, because the only hope now left - the only thin line between a banana republic and a democracy is the judiciary," he told journalists inside the court premises.

Many cities in Pakistan saw violent protests following his arrest by the anti-graft agency. Mr. Khan denies any wrongdoing. Facebook, YouTube and Twitter were inaccessible in Pakistan on Saturday, journalists said.

Ukraine used long-range Storm Shadow missiles from Britain to attack Luhansk, claims Russia

Reuters
MOSCOW

Russia's Defence Ministry said on Saturday that Ukrainian aircraft had struck two industrial sites in the Russian-held city of Luhansk in eastern Ukraine with Storm Shadow long-range cruise missiles supplied by Britain. Britain on Thursday became the first country to say it had started supplying Kyiv with long-range cruise missiles, which will allow it to hit Russian troops and supply dumps far behind the front lines as it prepares a major counter attack.

British Defence Minister Ben Wallace said he had received assurances from Kyiv that they would not be used to attack targets inside Russia's internationally accepted borders.

'Broken vow'

The Russian ministry said the missiles had hit a plant producing polymers and a meat-processing factory in Luhansk on Friday.

"Storm Shadow air-to-air missiles supplied to the Kyiv regime by Britain were used for the strike, contrary to London's statements that these weapons would not be used against civilian targets," the ministry said.

'Moving forward' along Bakhmut front, says Ukraine

Agence France-Presse
KYIV

A senior Ukrainian military commander said on Saturday that Kyiv's forces were advancing along parts of the front line against Russian forces near the eastern town of Bakhmut.

"Our soldiers are moving forward in some areas of the front, and the enemy is losing equipment and manpower," Commander of Ukrainian ground forces Oleksandr Syrskyi said on social media.

Earlier Saturday the Germany defence ministry said the country was preparing a new weapons package for Ukraine worth 2.7 billion euros, reportedly Berlin's largest since Russia invaded last year.

Kyiv said that the massive new weapons package from Germany was another sign that Russia would lose in its war against Ukraine.

"States declare large defence aid packages for Ukraine," said Mykhailo Podolyak, an adviser to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky.Ukraine's Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba said that he discussed next weapons supplies with U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken.

"I paid close attention to the importance of providing Ukraine with F-16s and steps necessary to begin training of Ukrainian pilots," he added.

டிஐஐபிஆர் 5085 தினாங்க 04.04.2023
கார்யாலய அதீக்ஷண அபியந்தா, சா.நி.வி. க்ராமீண வ்ருத ஜோதபுர
க்ரமாங்க :அஅ/க்ரா.வ்./2023-24/415 தினாங்க :05/05/2023
நிவிதா ஸம்ஶோதன (த்விதீய) ஸூசனா 13/2022-23
NIB: PWD2223A4935
இஸ கார்யாலய த்வாரா ஜாரீ நிவிதா ஸூசனா ஸங்க்யா 13/2022-23 மேம் அங்கித ஸமஸ்த கார்யோம் கீ நிவிதாயேம் ஆன்லைன் ப்ரஸ்துத கியே ஜானே கீ தினாங்க 16.05.2023 கோ ஸாம 6:00 பஜே தக பட்ஹாஈ ஜாதீ ஹை. தகனீகீ நிவிதாயேம் தினாங்க 17.05.2023 கோ ப்ராத:11:00 பஜே ஸம்பதித கார்யாலய மேம் ஆன்லைன் கோலீ ஜாயேகீ. நிவிதா கீ அன்ய ஶர்தேம் யதாவத் ரஹேம்கீ.

1. PWD2223WSRC19821	2. PWD2223WSRC19824	3. PWD2223WSRC19830
4. PWD2223WSRC19832	5. PWD2223WSRC19833	6. PWD2223WSRC19835

(டீ.ஆர். மாதவ)
DIPR/C/6751/2023 அதீக்ஷண அபியந்தா,ஸா நி வி க்ராமீண வ்ருத ஜோதபுர

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Bid Submission	**30.05.2023** before **15.00** hours at the office of the Tender Invitee. Digitally signed encrypted Tenders through E-Tendering website **www.tntenders.gov.in**
Bid opening	**31.05.2023** at **15.30** hours at the office of Tender Invitee through E-Tender Portal

IFB No.	Name of work	Bid Security
	Engaging Project Management Consultancy (PMC) to provide support to the Tamilnadu Water Supply and Drainage Board in Project Management and construction supervision for the following CWSS	
03	CWSS to 1286 rural Habitations in 11 Panchayat unions in Virudhunagar District and 45 habitations in 2 Panchayat unions in Thoothukudi District. (Execution Period 18 months and Trial run Period of 6 months)	**Rs.4.75 lakhs**
04	CWSS to 2 Municipalities, 5 Town Panchayats and 2306 rural habitations in 11 Panchayat Unions of Ramanathapuram District and Oddanchatram Municipality, Keeranur and Neikkarapatty Town Panchayats and 1422 Rural Habitations in 7 Unions of Dindigul District with river Cauvery as source (Execution Period 18 months and Trial run Period of 6 months)	**Rs.7.90 lakhs**

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U.K. sees success in mitochondrial replacement therapy

R. Prasad

Eight years after the U.K. became the first country in the world to approve a reproductive technique known as mitochondrial replacement therapy (MRT), "less than five" children have been born using the procedure, as of April 2023.

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA), the U.K. fertility regulator that approves the IVF-based procedure on a case-by-case basis, recently confirmed this in response to a freedom of information request. The fertility regulator refused to share more information about the birth details of the children as that "could lead to the identification of a person to whom the HFEA owes a duty of confidentiality".

Last year, Australia became the second country to approve this therapy.

The mitochondrial replacements in "less than five" children were carried out by the Newcastle Fertility Centre, U.K., the only clinic that has been approved by the regulator to conduct this therapy.

Three-parent IVF

Mitochondria replacement involves transferring nuclear genetic material from a mother's egg into a donor egg that has had its nuclear DNA removed so the embryo does not inherit the mitochondrial disease. This would allow a woman carrying mitochondrial diseases to have healthy children. The resulting IVF embryo combines sperm and egg from the biological parents, while the mitochondria is from the donor's egg.

As a result, the baby has DNA from each of its parents, along with 37 genes from the donor. This is the reason why this technique is also called three-parent IVF (in vitro fertilisation).

According to the HFEA, one in 6,500 babies in the U.K. is born with a mitochondrial disorder which can lead to serious problems such as heart and liver disease, and respiratory problems, which can even lead to the death of the infant.

Life-saver

The Authority said, in 2013, that this procedure can save around 10 lives each year in the U.K.

Mitochondria is the powerhouse of a cell, and any mutation that damages the mitochondria tends to affect energy-hungry organs the most.

As of 2013, about 12,000 people in the U.K. live with such conditions, the reason why the therapy was approved by the HFEA.

In the U.S., 1,000-4,000 babies with mitochondrial disease are born each year.

Long COVID: a lingering problem requiring greater attention

For long COVID, the onset is more insidious and diagnosis is less certain; there are no diagnostic tests to confirm long COVID and, therefore, a sizeable number of patients go undetected

Rajeev Jayadevan

"Sometimes, I forget what I was doing, and have to pause and think."

"After having COVID-19, I have not been able to go to work due to breathing difficulty."

"I feel so tired, with aches and pains in my muscles and joints."

These are complaints voiced by some people long after recovering from COVID-19. While it is not unusual for a viral fever to leave a person feeling tired for a few days, people with long COVID experience symptoms for several months or even longer.

Several symptoms

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines long COVID as the continuation or development of new symptoms (beyond three months after the initial infection) lasting for over two months with no alternative explanation. Studies have attempted to determine how commonly it occurs. However, since there are several symptoms reported by those who suffer from long COVID, classification has become difficult. For instance, a study that uses tiredness as a criterion could overestimate the prevalence, as that symptom is already common among the general population.

A study of long COVID from AIIMS, Delhi during the first wave reported its incidence to be as high as 10%. More recent studies estimate the true incidence to be around 5%, which implies that one out of 20 patients with COVID-19 go on to develop long COVID. While gradual recovery has occurred in some cases, this has not been the case for others. For instance, a paper from Kerala reports that 62% of long COVID patients who became unemployed following their initial illness remained so even at 10 months post-infection.

Across the world, millions continue to suffer from long COVID, and a study last year by the Atlanta-based CDC found that nearly one-fifth of people in the U.S. who had the disease in the last two years continued to suffer from long COVID.

The impact of any disease is assessed based on certain outcomes. For COVID-19, death is a frequently discussed hard outcome measure. However, long COVID is a relatively soft outcome because its onset is more insidious and its diagnosis is less certain. Many people experiencing long COVID do not rush to the doctor, and among those who do, a diagnosis is seldom made.

Frequently, such people are ignored as 'psychological' or 'anxiety-related'. Unfortunately, there are no diagnostic tests such as X-rays, CT scans, or blood tests to confirm long COVID. Therefore, a sizeable number of patients with long COVID go undetected.

Research is ongoing to determine why only some individuals develop long COVID. Some studies have found that it is more common in women, but it has not been linked to any specific age group or the severity of the initial infection. Initially, long COVID was thought to be an autoimmune phenomenon, and some believe it is due to persistence of the virus in remote parts of the body, such as the gut. Reactivation of other viruses in the body is also implicated. There is evidence of an abnormal immune response in long COVID, but it is not clear what drives this response or what can be done to alleviate it.

At present, there are no approved drugs for treating long COVID, and multiple clinical trials are currently under way. The WHO said the best way to prevent long COVID is to avoid getting infected with SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Preventing COVID-19 on a forward timeline is challenging for many reasons. Firstly, many infections occur without symptoms. Second, the virus is constantly evolving to escape human immune responses arising from vaccination and/or prior infection. This means that repeated bouts of COVID-19 can be expected, especially when precautions are not followed during a regional surge. A recent study published by the CDC found that 15% of reinfections occurred as early as two months after initial infection. Every (re)infection has a possibility of causing long COVID.

Pandemic fatigue

The recent declaration by the WHO ending the COVID-19 public health emergency of international concern is misunderstood as the end of the pandemic itself. Blame it on pandemic fatigue, despite the WHO's assertion that COVID-19 continues to be an "established and ongoing health issue", people end up taking home a different message. For them, the declaration of the end of the public health emergency is tantamount to the pandemic coming to an end. This could worsen the spread of the virus.

Recognising the existence of long COVID and continuing to implement regionally appropriate mitigation measures when the situation so demands will help in reducing the negative impact of the pandemic on global health and productivity.

(Rajeev Jayadevan is co-Chairman, National IMA COVID Task Force)

Understanding the challenges of long COVID

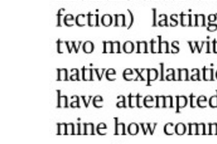
The WHO defines long COVID as the continuation of symptoms lasting for over two months after infection with no alternative explanation

- A study of long COVID by AIIMS, Delhi in 2020 reported 10% incidence. Recent studies estimate the true incidence to be around 5%
- A Kerala study found 62% of long COVID patients continued to remain unemployed even 10 months post-infection
- Unlike death which is a hard outcome measure, long COVID is a relatively soft outcome, and diagnosis is less certain
- There are no diagnostic tests to confirm long COVID, thus a sizable number of such patients go undetected
- Some studies show long COVID is more common in women, but it is not conclusively linked to any specific age group or infection severity

Challenges: Classification of long COVID has become difficult as several symptoms are reported by those suffering from it

- There are no approved drugs for treating long COVID, and multiple clinical trials are currently under way
- A person runs the risk of developing long COVID each time he/she gets infected

A break in the Western Ghats



SPEAKING OF SCIENCE

D. Balasubramanian

Often called as a significant discontinuity in the Western Ghats, the Palghat Gap is about 40 km wide, with the steep Nilgiris and Anamalai hills, both rising above 2,000 msl, on either side.

The Palghat Gap has historically been important as a significant gateway into the State of Kerala.

It is a corridor for both roads and railways that connects Coimbatore with Palakkad. The Bharathappuzha river flows through it.

In contrast to the tropical rainforests of the Western Ghats, the vegetation in the Palghat Gap is classified as dry evergreen forest.

It also marks a divide in the flora and fauna of the region. For example, several species of frogs are found only on one side of the Palghat Gap.

Geological upheaval

The Gap is a geological shear zone that runs from east to west. Shear zones are weak regions in the earth's crust – this is the reason why tremors are sometimes felt in Coimbatore.

The origin of the Palghat Gap also stems from the drift of continental shelves after Australia and Africa broke off from the Gondwana landmass.

India and Madagascar remained as one landmass until large-scale volcanic activity split the two, the split occurring where the Palghat Gap is located – this is mirrored in the Ranotsara Gap on the eastern face of Madagascar. How long ago did the Gap originate? The landmass split about 100 million years ago, and the Gap had formed before this; although how long before is debated.

It has been speculated that one reason for the biogeographic distinctions in species in north and south of the Gap could be due to an ancient river or an incursion of the sea in the distant past. Elephant populations on the Nilgiris side differ in their mitochondrial DNA from elephants in the Anamalai and the Periyar sanctuaries.

Variation: There are biogeographic distinctions in species north and south of the Palghat Gap. FILE PHOTO

One study from IISc Bangalore has analysed DNA sequence divergence data in populations of the White-bellied Shortwing, an endemic and threatened bird. Birds found around Ooty and Baba Budan are called the Nilgiri blue robin; the Anamalai group differs slightly in appearance, and is called the White-bellied blue robin.

South of the Gap

The biodiversity of a region is expressed in two ways: species richness, which relates to how many species are found in an ecosystem, and phylogenetic diversity, where you add up the evolutionary age of all the species you find.

Both these traits are abundant in the Western Ghats south of the Palghat Gap, as reported in a recent study by groups from the CCMB at Hyderabad and other institutions (*Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, April 2023). There are over 450 species of trees here, including some such as *Magnolia champaca* (Champa; Tamil: Sambagan) that have been around for over 130 million years.

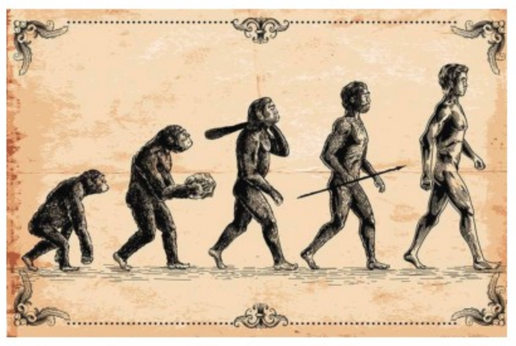
Warm weather due to proximity to the equator, and moist air brings plenty of rain to the southern Western Ghats. Therefore, this region has been an island refuge for all forms of life, even as cycles of ice ages and droughts have reduced biodiversity in surrounding areas. The Western Ghats in north of the Palghat Gap receive more rain annually, but the south gets rain more evenly throughout the year.

(The article was written in collaboration with Sushil Chandani, who works in molecular modelling. sushilchandani@gmail.com)

SNAPSHOTS

Hammerhead sharks hold their breath during diving

As per a new study (*Science)*, hammerhead sharks hold their breath to maintain body temperature as they hunt in deep, cold waters. The previously unobserved phenomenon, which has broad similarities to breath-holding thermoregulation strategies employed by marine mammals, may be widespread among other deep-diving sharks and fish. Like most fish, sharks are fully ectothermic, and their body temperatures are largely regulated by their immediate environment.



Data reveal *Homo* adaptation to diverse environments

Homo species – particularly *Homo sapiens* – were uniquely equipped to adapt to diverse environments (*Science*), which may have enabled our species and that of our closely related ancestors to survive in highly fluctuating Pleistocene environments. Whether this is because our species was uniquely successful at adapting to Pleistocene environments, because we outcompeted other contemporary *Homo* species, or because we simply outlived others by chance remains largely unknown.

Using disposable diaper waste as a construction material

Up to 8% of the sand in concrete and mortar used to make a single-storey house could be replaced with shredded, used disposable diapers without diminishing their strength, as per a study (*Scientific Reports*). Researchers tested six samples containing different proportions of diaper waste to measure how much pressure they could withstand. Then, they calculated the maximum proportion of sand that could be replaced with these diapers in building materials.

Question Corner

Sea level rise

Has the future sea level rise been correctly estimated?

Researchers have uncovered a previously unseen way in which ice and an ocean interacts. According to glaciologists, this could mean that the climate community has been underestimating the magnitude of future sea level rise caused by polar ice deterioration.

Using satellite radar data from three European missions, the team learned that the Petermann Glacier's grounding line – where ice detaches from land bed and floats in the ocean – shifts during tidal cycles, allowing warm seawater to intrude and melt ice at an accelerated rate (*Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*).

The researchers found that as the Petermann Glacier's grounding line retreated nearly 4 km between 2016 and 2022, warm water carved a 670-foot-tall cavity in the underside of the glacier, and that abscess remained there for all of 2022. The new study shows that warm ocean water intrudes beneath the ice through pre-existing subglacial channels, with the highest melt rates occurring at the grounding zone, says a release.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

PROFILES

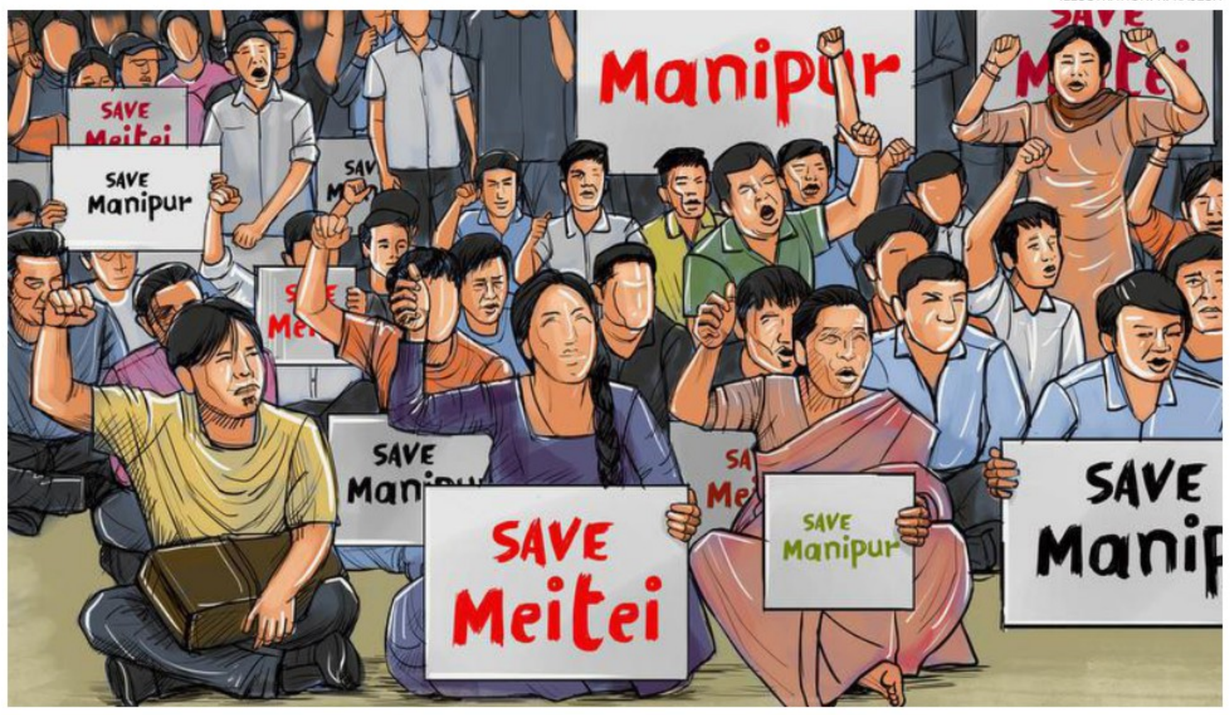
Clash of clans in Manipur

Meiteis

The valley-dwellers, who make up 53% of Manipur's population, demand ST status for protecting their 'ancestral land, traditions, culture and language', while existing tribal groups say the Meiteis enjoy demographic and political advantages

Rahul Karmakar

ILLUSTRATION: R. RAJESH



Multiple factors led to the ethnic conflict that erupted in Manipur on May 3 that left more than 60 dead, 231 injured, and 1,700 houses, many belonging to tribes of the Kuki group, destroyed. The most recent was a 'Tribal Solidarity March', spurred by the Manipur High Court's March 27 order (issued on April 19) that revived a decade-old demand of a section of the Meitei people that they be granted the Scheduled Tribe status for protecting their "ancestral land, traditions, culture and language". New Delhi rushed thousands of Central forces to the State as violence spread. An uneasy calm has prevailed over the State ever since, but the equations between communities remain tense.

Manipur, one of the eight northeastern States, covers an area of 22,327 sq. km and has a rich cultural, literary and administrative history. The State's territory, according to British-era maps in the 1850s, once extended up to the Ningthee or Chindwin river beyond the Kabaw or Kubo Valley in Myanmar. The present-day Manipur can be broadly divided into two valleys that account for a little more than 10% of the landmass and the hills covering the rest.

About 60% of Manipur's population, largely the non-tribal Meitei, live in the 1,864.44 sq.km Imphal Valley, comprising five districts, almost at the centre of the State. The remaining 40% inhabit the surrounding hills divided into 10 districts besides the 232 sq.km valley of Jiribam, also a district, adjoining southern Assam's Cachar. Jiribam is the access point of one of the two major National Highways and a railway (partially completed) linking the State's capital Imphal. The other arterial highway is via Nagaland to the north. Extremism-related and ethnic conflicts have often disrupted vehicular movement on these highways largely through tribal areas, resulting in a fuel, food and medicine scarcity in the Imphal Valley and elsewhere in Manipur. Meiteis account for about 53% of the State's total population of 2.85 million. Also known as Meetei or Manipuri, the community is spread across the other northeastern States, Bangladesh, and Myanmar. Their language, Meiteilon, is one of 22 recognised tongues that has been included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. Their ancient script, Meitei Mayek, of the sixth-century vintage, is undergoing a process of revival.

More than 83% of the Meitei people are associated with Hinduism, followed by the Meitei Pangals or Manipuri Muslims (8.4%) and Christians (above 1%). The rest adhere to Sanamahi, an indigenous faith first mentioned in the Cheitharol Kumbaba, the royal chronicle of Kangleipak – the old name of Manipur – from 33-154 CE. The Manipuri dance, one of India's principal classical dance forms, has its roots in the Lai Haraoba, a festival associated with pleasing the Sanamahi deities. The royal patronage also yielded Thang-ta, a Manipuri martial art involving fighting with swords and spears and gave the world Sagoj Kangjei, which evolved into the modern polo.

Four eras, seven clans

The history of the Meities, broadly divided into four eras from the ancient to the modern, is chronicled in Puyas or texts such as *Cheitharol Kumbaba*, *Ninghthou Kangbalon*, *Ningthourol Lambuba*, *Poireiton Khunthokpa* and Panthoibi Khongkul. According to the chronicles, the Meiteis are divided into seven *Salai* or clans – Mangang, Luwang, Khuman, Angom, Moirang Kha, Ngangba, and Sarang Leishangthem. The Meitei kingdom, called Kangleipak, traces its origin to Pakhangba (1445-1405 BCE), who came from present-day China and settled in the Koubru hills, about 35 km northwest of Imphal.

Pakhangba founded the Ningthouja dynasty belonging to the Mangang clan, which exercised some clout until Manipur's merger with the Indian Union in 1949. Pakhangba is also represented as the presiding deity of both Hindu and pre-Hindu Meitei people and is symbolised as a dragon-like serpent with its tail in its mouth. The symbol is ubiquitous across the areas dominated by the Meiteis. Hinduism penetrated the Meitei kingdom in the late 15th century but large-scale adoption of the religion is attributed to the influence of Vaishnav monks and adherents from Bengal who fled persecution under the sultans of Bengal. The indigenous deities such as Panthoibi were gradually given a Hindu makeover.

Caste entered Manipur via Hinduism. The Meitei community can be broadly divided into three castes – the Bamons or Brahmins, the Kshatriyas, and the Scheduled Castes. The Bamons are believed to have settled from elsewhere in India after marrying locally and are primarily the priests who perform rituals or cook during festivals and other religious functions. The Kshatriyas adopted Singh as the surname but are subtly different from the RKs – Rajkumars and Rajkumaris – who have the royal lineage. The third category of Meitei comprises the Lois and Chakpas, who can be both Hindu and Sanamahi.

While the Sanamahi followers are not SC, those following Hinduism account for the bulk of the State's 3.8% SC population. A section of the Bamons and Kshatriyas are against the ST status, as are the SCs who feel they will lose out if they compete with Meiteis and existing tribes if they are granted the ST status, first demanded by the Scheduled Tribe Demand Committee of Manipur in 2012.

ST status

The committee claimed the existence of the Meitei community was under threat from outsiders, primarily the Kuki-Chin people allegedly settling in Manipur from Myanmar illegally. It said the space for the Meitei people is shrinking as the ST people are allowed to buy land in the Imphal Valley while the Meiteis, without the ST tag, are kept away from the hills. The demand was later taken up by the Meetei (Meitei) Tribe Union, which filed a petition in the Manipur High Court. The petitioners claimed the Meiteis were recognised as a tribe before the merger of Manipur with the Union of India, although many contest this theory. Citing a May 2013 letter from the Tribal Affairs Ministry to the Manipur government seeking a specific recommendation along with the latest socio-economic survey and ethnographic report, the court directed the State government to propose the inclusion of the Meitei community in the ST list to the Centre.

The court order led to the 'Tribal Solidarity March' organised by the All Tribal Students' Union of Manipur (ATSUM), representing the State's 33 tribes divided unequally into Kuki and Naga groups. The union said the Meiteis enjoy a demographic and political advantage (Imphal and Jiribam valleys send 40 MLAs to the 60-member Assembly, while the tribal hills send 20) and are more advanced in every spheres. Pointing out that the Meiteis already have access to benefits associated with the SC, OBC, or Economically Weaker Section status, the union said the demand was a strategy of the valley dwellers to acquire land in the hills and push the tribals out. What followed the march were violent clashes.

THE GIST

- More than 83% of the Meitei people are associated with Hinduism, followed by the Meitei Pangals or Manipuri Muslims (8.4%) and Christians (above 1%). The rest adhere to Sanamahi, an indigenous faith
- While the Sanamahi followers are not SC, those Meiteis following Hinduism account for the bulk of the State's 3.8% SC population. the Scheduled Tribe Demand Committee of Manipur has demanded ST status for them
- The existing tribal communities oppose any such move, saying Meiteis are already an advanced community

The chosen rebel

Eknath Shinde

The Shiv Sena leader, who revolted against the Thackerays and clinched the top job in Maharashtra with the BJP's help, is under mounting political pressure

Shoumojit Banerjee

ILLUSTRATION: J.A. PREMKUMAR

In June last year, the startling dénouement to Maharashtra's regime change drama came when BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis, widely considered the front-runner for the top post, bit the bullet and announced 'rebel' Shiv Sena leader Eknath Shinde's name as the State's 20th Chief Minister.

The crisis triggered by Mr. Shinde's revolt, which vertically split the 56-year-old party founded by the late Bal Thackeray and toppled the tripartite Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government led by Uddhav Thackeray, significantly altered Maharashtra's political equation.

But in the 10 months since Mr. Shinde's faction of 50 MLAs (40 from the undivided Sena and 10 Independents) formed a new government with the BJP, there have been questions about the constitutional and moral legitimacy of his government. Those questions were reinforced by Supreme Court's verdict last week in the Sena vs Sena case, which held that Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari's call for a trust vote that led to the resignation of the Uddhav Thackeray-led government, was illegal.

The rise of the current CM, from his hardscrabble early years working in a brewery, then leaving studies to drive an autorickshaw in Thane to support his family, has become the stuff of legend in Maharashtra's politics (He finally took a B.A. degree in 2020). With no platinum spoon or political pedigree, Mr. Shinde built one for himself, nurtured and mentored by the fiery and fearsome Anand Dighe, the late Sena strongman dubbed the 'Bal Thackeray of Thane.'

Mr. Shinde, who become a Sena branch head in Thane when he was just 18 in 1982, modelled his personality on Dighe, who was known for his simplicity, honesty and round-the-clock accessibility for poorer sections but a dangerous man to cross when dealing with political or personal betrayal. The 1980s were momentous for Mr. Shinde's career; this was a period when Bal Thackeray made a notable shift from his party's nativist plank to adopt a hardline 'Hindutva' stance by piggybacking on the Ram Janmabhoomi agitation.

In 1997, he first tasted electoral success, becoming a corporator in the Thane Municipal Corporation. In 2000, Mr. Shinde's life entered a traumatic phase when two of his children tragically died in a boating accident. He went into a shock, but was brought back into active politics by Dighe.

Party organiser

His skills as a superb organiser and dynamic worker translated into electoral success with Mr. Shinde first becoming a legislator, winning the Thane Assembly seat in 2004 and thereby winning the Kopri-Pachpakhadi seat (created from the Thane segment) for three consecutive terms. Importantly, he emerged as a bridge between the BJP and the Shiv Sena when fault-lines appeared in the alliance after Bal Thackeray's death.

However, despite Mr. Shinde's personal qualities and equation with the BJP, his influence as CM appears to be circumscribed only to his stronghold Thane. Besides, the Sena cadre continues to side with the Thackeray clan, underscoring the resonance of the 'Thackeray' name with the party rank-and-file despite the Election Commission awarding the party name and symbol to Mr. Shinde's faction.

While claiming to be Bal Thackeray's legitimate political heir, Mr. Shinde has struggled to shake off the image of being a 'BJP puppet' with its top brass in Delhi dictating Maharashtra's script. There is also an inbuilt friction with Mr. Fadnavis and the unenviable task of managing dissensions within his faction.

More problematically for the Shinde-BJP dispensation, it seems to be losing electoral ground to the MVA. The ruling alliance was trounced by the MVA in the recent Legislative Council by-polls and the Andheri and Kasba Peth Assembly by-polls.

The long-pending civic polls, particularly the critical cash-rich Mumbai civic body (BMC), will be the acid test for Mr. Uddhav as well as Mr. Shinde and the BJP. Mr. Shinde will know whether he is in control of the chain of events he set in motion and the BJP will learn whether they did right by propelling a 'supporting actor' to 'leading man' status.

Erdogan's rival

Kemal Kilicdaroglu

Turkey's joint opposition candidate has promised to defend the country's democracy and institutions and strengthen ties with the West if voted to power

G. Sampath

ILLUSTRATION: SREEJIT R KUMAR

About 64 million Turks will cast their ballot on Sunday in presidential and parliamentary elections deemed to be highly consequential – both for the future of Turkish democracy and geopolitics in the region. They will choose between President Recep Tayyip Erdogan (69), leader of the Justice and Development Party (AKP), and Kemal Kilicdaroglu (74), the presidential candidate of the Table of Six, a united front of six parties.

Mr. Erdogan has been in power, either as Prime Minister or President, since 2003. There is a sense among political observers that if Mr. Erdogan wins yet again, Turkey would transition to a de facto dictatorship. The man vested with the responsibility to prevent such an eventuality is Mr. Kilicdaroglu, leader of the centre-left Republican People's Party (CHP), the largest constituent of the Table of Six.

Born in 1948 in eastern Turkey, he was one of the seven children in a family from the Alevi religious minority. After a degree in economics, he worked with Turkey's top financial institutions, including the Ministry of Finance. He entered Parliament on a CHP ticket for the first time in 2002, the same year that saw AKP commence its long reign. He has led the CHP from 2010, and has lost a series of elections to Mr. Erdogan.

A career bureaucrat

Mr. Kilicdaroglu doesn't have the charisma or the penchant for the polarising rhetoric of Mr. Erdogan. As a career bureaucrat, he has a staid, professorial style that has led many to dismiss him as 'boring' and discount his chances against a mass leader like Mr. Erdogan. In fact, as soon as he was anointed as the Opposition's joint candidate for the Presidential race, fractures appeared in the Table of Six, with Meral Aksener, leader of the centre-right Iyi party, pulling out of the coalition. But the swift resolution of this crisis underscored Mr. Kilicdaroglu's ability to negotiate and make deals with political rivals.

As head of the century-old secularist party created by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, Mr. Kilicdaroglu has been at the forefront – though not always – of defending democratic rights in Turkey. In 2017, he led a march of more than 400km to protest against Mr. Erdogan's crackdown on Opposition politicians. So far, the only major victories under his leadership have come in the mayoral elections of Istanbul and Ankara, Turkey's largest cities, sparking hope that the Opposition may have finally found a strategy to unseat Mr. Erdogan.

There is clearly a lot of discontent against the incumbent. While a stalling yet inflationary economy is a major issue, the more immediate cause of public anger is the government's mishandling of the response to the February 2023 earthquake which killed more than 50,000 people in Turkey and northern Syria. Mr. Kilicdaroglu in his campaign has said the large scale collapse of residential buildings was due to corruption under the Erdogan government as a result of which building codes and safety regulations were given the short shrift. However, by and large, Mr. Kilicdaroglu has chosen not to focus on Mr. Erdogan, preferring instead to offer a positive message of hope, change and democratic freedoms.

But Mr. Kilicdaroglu's love for democratic freedoms doesn't extend to the millions of Syrian and Afghan refugees in Turkey. Like Mr. Erdogan, he too has taken a nationalistic stance on this issue, vowing to send them back to their countries of origin if voted in. When it comes to foreign policy, where Mr. Erdogan has chosen to play all sides and even risk antagonising the U.S. in his bid to develop Turkey into an influential power broker, Mr. Kilicdaroglu has promised a more "balanced" relationship with the U.S. and indicated he would prefer Turkey to be more readily compliant with its commitments as a NATO member – which may not be great news for Russia.

Mr. Kilicdaroglu's biggest achievement so far has been uniting the perennially bickering Opposition parties into a singular front against Mr. Erdogan. While he is slightly ahead of Mr. Erdogan in the polls, it remains to be seen whether he can draw enough voters away from Mr. Erdogan's conservative base to get past the finish line.

INBRIEF

D-Mart Q4 net profit rises 7.8% to ₹460.1 cr.; revenue up 20.5%

Avenue Supermarts Ltd., which owns and operates the retail chain D-Mart, on Saturday reported an increase of 7.81% in consolidated net profit to ₹460.10 crore for the fourth quarter ended March 31, 2023. The company had posted a net profit of ₹426.75 crore in the January-March quarter a year earlier, Avenue Supermarts said in a BSE filing. Revenue from operations was up 20.57% to ₹10,594.11 crore as against ₹8,786.45 crore in the corresponding quarter last fiscal. PTI

DLF to unveil ₹20,000 crore worth of projects this fiscal

Realty major DLF Ltd. will unveil projects worth ₹19,710 crore for sale by March next year and aims to achieve sale bookings of about ₹12,000 crore in this fiscal on strong housing demand. On Friday, DLF reported sale bookings jumped more than twofold to a record ₹15,058 crore last fiscal from ₹7,273 crore in the previous year. The company clocked ₹8,000 crore from a single luxury housing project 'The Arbour' unveiled in Gurugram during the March quarter. PTI

U.S. FDA issues observations for Dr. Reddy's unit in A.P.

The United States Food and Drug Administration (U.S. FDA) has issued Form 483 with four observations to a formulations manufacturing facility of Dr. Reddy's Laboratories (DRL) in Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh. DRL said it was a product-specific pre-approval inspection and a routine GMP inspection and conducted from May 8-12. "We have been issued a Form 483 with four observations, which we will address within the stipulated timeline," DRL said in a filing.

G7 finance chiefs warn of global uncertainty as U.S. debt crisis looms

Central banks vow to keep inflation expectations anchored; finance leaders reiterate that global financial system is 'resilient', promise vigilance and agile, flexible approach to macroeconomic policymaking amid heightened uncertainty over outlook

Reuters
NIIGATA, JAPAN

Finance leaders of the Group of Seven (G7) rich nations warned of heightening global economic uncertainty on Saturday, as they wrapped up a three-day meet overshadowed by a U.S. debt ceiling stalemate and fallout from Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Their gathering came as worries over a U.S. default fuelled uncertainty over the global outlook, already clouded by stubbornly high inflation and U.S. bank failures.

Collective watch: G7 finance leaders vow vigilance amid heightened uncertainty about the global economic outlook. PTI

"The global economy has shown resilience against multiple shocks, including the COVID-19 pandemic, Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, and associated inflationary pressures," the leaders said in a communique.

'Need to stay vigilant'

"We need to remain vigilant and stay agile and flexible in our macroeconomic policy amid heightened uncertainty about the global economic outlook."

The communique made no mention of the U.S. debt ceiling stalemate, which hits markets at a time when borrowing costs are rising because of aggressive monetary tightening by U.S. and European central banks.

On the banking troubles, policymakers said they would tackle "data, supervisory, and regulatory gaps in the banking system".

They retained their April assessment that the global financial system was "resilient", thanks to regulatory reforms made after the 2008 global financial crisis.

Warning that inflation remains "elevated," the G7 central banks stressed their commitment to price stability and ensure inflation expectations remained well-anchored, the communique showed.

IRDAI forms panel to advice on mental health coverage

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

A holistic review of types of conditions, treatments from an insurance perspective is needed

Insurance regulator IRDAI has set up a five-member expert committee comprising medical experts and insurers for advice on matters related to mental health and insurance.

With the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) Director Pratima Murthy as chairperson, the committee will provide advice and inputs on existing coverage and covers to be offered for mental illnesses. It will also guide on the terminology and concept from a medical domain perspective, and aspects pertaining to mental illnesses from an insurance perspective.

The panel has a two year tenure and comes in the backdrop of mental health being identified as a key area requiring attention for insurance coverage. "A holistic examination of aspects involved such as types of conditions, treatments from an insurance perspective is necessary when dealing with products designed to cover mental illnesses and other related aspects," the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India said.

Separately, IRDAI advised insurers to comply with the provisions on insurance covers for the surrogate mother and oocyte donor under the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021, and ART Act, 2021. "All insurers are directed to comply with the provisions of the two Acts with immediate effect," it said.

TVS Motor aims to go global in two-wheeler personal transportation

N. Anand
CHENNAI

Aiming to become a global player in personal transportation in the two wheeler segment, TVS Motor said it has drawn up plans to unveil new products in the EV and ICE segments and consolidate its geographies.

"We are looking at e-bicycles, e-motorbikes and e-scooters," said TVS Group chairman emeritus Venu Srinivasan. "We need a bigger footprint in Latin America and South East Asia and ultimately with Norton motorcycles and e-bicycles to North America and Europe," he added.

"This year is going to be a very important year, because we will also start looking at some of the international markets by expanding into Latin America and West Asia," CEO K.N. Radhakrishnan said during an analysts call.

For FY24, TVS Motor has lined up a capex of ₹900-1,000 crore for the ICE and EV two- and three-wheelers, and an investment of about ₹700 crore.

Adani to raise ₹21,000 crore from share sale in two group firms

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Adani Group will raise ₹21,000 crore through share sale in two group companies in a comeback strategy after the ports-to-energy conglomerate was rocked by allegations of fraud levelled by U.S.-based short seller Hindenburg Research.

Adani Enterprises, the group's flagship, plans to raise ₹12,500 crore, while electricity transmission firm Adani Transmission [plans] another ₹8,500 crore, the companies said in stock exchange filings.

The board of Adani Green Energy Ltd. too, was scheduled to meet on Saturday for a fundraising but the meeting was postponed to May 24.

Institutional buyers

The fundraising will be through issue of shares to qualified institutional buyers. Sources aware of the matter said investors in Europe and West Asia had evinced strong interest.

This comes three months after Adani Enterprises was forced to abort a ₹20,000-crore follow-on public offering (FPO) in the wake of the Hindenburg report. The offer was fully subscribed but the company decided to return the money to subscribers. The sources said the company stock, which was offered in the price range of ₹3,112 to ₹3,276 in the FPO, was now available at ₹1,964 (at Friday's closing price).

ONDC orders grow, India Post gears up to join in

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

The Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), a government-backed modular network for e-commerce, food and grocery delivery, and cabs, is not meant to create a price war, but to help small enterprises to get to a threshold in digital commerce, the network's CEO Thampy Koshy told reporters this week.

Activity on ONDC has grown dramatically – partly on the back of incentives it has provided to participants – and India Post may soon join the network, bringing one of the world's

largest logistics systems on board.

The network, which in January had 800 merchants, 50 transactions a day, and 20 participants, is now clocking more than 25,000 mobility, retail and food delivery orders a day. Network participants is the term for tech firms that provide an app to access or sell through ONDC.

ONDC was introduced to curb "potential rent seeking" behaviour from top e-commerce platforms in retail, food delivery and cab aggregation, and leave each part of the value chain – from cataloguing orders to actually delivering them – to different players. Having it all done by one platform, "there is inefficiency that's created," Mr. Koshy said.

Incentives continue

Just like with the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), the payment technology with which ONDC is frequently compared, new participants in the network are receiving financial incentives – which some have passed on to customers in the form of significant discounts – to provide handholding support. The incentives are funded with financing that ONDC raised from banks.

While ONDC's architecture allows network participants to focus on whittling down the economics of their individual part of the e-commerce process, there is also the larger goal of reducing the power of large players, with food delivery firms like Swiggy and Zomato most under threat. As the honeymoon period of financing rapid expansion and acquiring customers with well-subsidised discounts plays out this year, these firms find themselves under pressure to cut costs themselves.

"Restaurants have also been pressurised in the sense that 30-35% of the commission stays with Zomato and Swiggy and only some of the rest is transferred to the restaurant," said Ritu Chhikara, who heads the Centre for Sustainability and Social Responsibility at BML Munjal University.

"The restaurant also has to make profits. So, they eventually increase the price of various items on the menu," she added.

'Increase agroforestry cover to cut carbon emissions'

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

With demand for plywood increasing by 10% per annum in tune with urbanisation and India embarking on ambitious net-zero targets, a top industry executive has called for an urgent need to increase agroforestry cover in India to address these demands.

"The forest cover in India has increased from 21% to 25%. So, 4% has been contributed by agroforestry [in recent years] and this is basically supported by the plywood industry,"

Sajjan Bhajanka

said Sajjan Bhajanka, chairman, Century Plyboards India Ltd.

He said various State governments were trying to augment agroforestry as it contributed to the environment, helped in reducing carbon footprint, and led to rainfall. "But the impact has been very less due to several factors," he added.

"In a presentation I had submitted to the Prime Minister, I suggested that we have about 14 to 15 million hectares of arable land in the country," Mr. Bhajanka said.

"So, if 5% of that land would come under plantation, India's forest cover would increase from 25% to 30% of the entire surface area," he said, adding that a shift in policy could bring about transformational changes.

Sport

Rhythm rewrites long-standing world record but fails to grab a medal

Sports Bureau

Rhythm Sangwan shot 595 in 25-metre sports pistol to beat a long-standing world record, but a medal eluded her grasp in the World Cup in Baku, Azerbaijan, on Saturday.

The previous world record of 594, shot first in 1994, was shared by three – Diana Iorgova, Luna Tao and Doreen Vennekamp.

The 19-year-old Rhythm, who had earlier won the air pistol bronze, had a bad start in the final, when she failed to score a point with the first five shots. It was an anti-climax after she had shot 299 out of 300 in the rapid fire section.

It was hard to recover, and Rhythm was the first

Mixed bag: On a day when Rhythm shot 595, a new world mark, she was the first to be eliminated in the final. FILE PHOTO

to be eliminated among the eight, pipped by one point, by the former World and Olympic champion Olena Kostevych.

The Chinese added one more gold medal as Feng Sixuan beat Haniyeh Rostamiyan of Iran 38-33. Interestingly, Doreen, who had equalled the world record of 594 in the World Cup in Bhopal earlier this season, climbed to the bronze medal.

In the men's 50-metre rifle 3-position event, Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar shot 586 and missed the final by one point. Another World Cup gold medallist like Aishwary, Akhil Sheoran shot 585 for the 15th spot. Olympic quota winner Swapnil Kusale shot 583 and placed 26th.

India stayed second in the medals table with one gold, two silver and a bronze. China was on top with three gold, a silver and two bronze.

The results: 50m rifle 3-position: Men: 1. Jiri Privratsky (Cze) 466.1 (588); 2. Serhiy Kulish (Ukr) 465.5 (590); 3. Petr Nymbursky (Cze) 453.5 (590); 12. Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar 586; 15. Akhil Sheoran 585; 26. Swapnil Kusale 583; **RPO:** Pankaj Mukheja 581.

25m sports Pistol: Women: 1. Feng Sixuan (Chn) 38 (584); 2. Haniyeh Rostamiyan (Iri) 33 (583); 3. Doreen Vennekamp (Ger) 30 (586); 8. Rhythm Sangwan 10 (595); 15. Esha Singh 582; 33. Manu Bhaker 578; **RPO:** Abhidnya Patil 576; Niveditha Nair 539.

Race for top-four heats up, Newcastle drops points, Man United posts a win

Agencies
MANCHESTER

Newcastle dropped more points in its push for Champions League qualification by drawing 2-2 at Leeds, which remained in the Premier League relegation zone after a thrilling game.

Anthony Martial and Alejandro Garnacho struck as Manchester United notched a comfortable 2-0 home win over Wolves. United is fourth on 66 points.

Southampton was relegated after its 2-0 defeat against Fulham.

Bayern Munich took another step toward a record-extending 11th consecutive Bundesliga title by routing Schalke 6-0 on Saturday.

Crucial points: Martial scores United's opener against Wolves. REUTERS

Borussia Dortmund move back within a point after a 5-2 thrashing of Borussia Monchengladbach.

Meanwhile, AC Milan's troubles were extended after losing at relegation-threatened Spezia 2-0 in the Serie A.

The results: Premier League: Leeds 2 (Ayling 7, Kristensen 79) drew with Newcastle 2 (Wilson 31-pen, 69-pen); Aston Villa 2 (Ramsey 8, Luiz 72) bt Tottenham 1 (Kane 90-pen); Chelsea 2 (Sterling 51, 58) drew with Nottingham Forest 2 (Awoniyi 13, 62); Crystal Palace 2 (Eze 39, 58) bt Bournemouth 0; Manchester United 2 (Martial 32, Garnacho 90+4) bt Wolves 0; Southampton 0 lost to Fulham 2 (Vinicus 48, Mitrovic 72).

LaLiga: Real Sociedad 2 (Oyarzabal 5-pen, Silva 24) drew with Girona 2 (Couto 37, Stuani 45+3); Villarreal 5 (Baena 24, 90, Jackson 37, 50, Paredes 61-og) bt Athletic Bilbao 1 (Sancet 45+3-pen).

Serie A: Salernitana 1 (Candreva 90+3) bt Atalanta 0; Spezia 2 (Wisniewski 75, Esposito 85) bt AC Milan 0.

Bundesliga: Dortmund 5 (Malen 5, Bellingham 18-pen, Haller 20, 32, Reyna 90+5) bt M'Gladbach 2 (Bensebaini 75-pen, Stindl 85); Bayern Munich 6 (Muller 21, Kimmich 29-pen, Gnabry 50, 65, Tel 80, Mazraoui 90+2) bt Schalke 0; Union Berlin 4 (Behrens 5, Becker 36, 38, Laidouni 80) bt SC Freiburg 2 (Gulde 56, Grifo 70-pen); Eintracht Frankfurt 3 (Kamada 18-pen, Buta 40, Kolo Muani 59) bt Mainz 0.

On Friday: Serie A: Lazio 2 (Immobile 34, Milinkovic-Savic 90+4) drew with Lecce 2 (Oudin 45+2, 51).

UNPLEASANT BUSINESS

Spectator's unruly act leads to stoppage in play

There was a commotion and six-minute stoppage of play on Saturday after a spectator apparently threw a metal object at LSG fielder Prerak Mankad at long-on after SRH's appeal for a no-ball was turned down by the third umpire in the 19th over. LSG's Andy Flower had a discussion with the match officials, who responded quickly.

PAPA PIYUSH

Chawla reveals person behind his special comeback season

Veteran spinner Piyush Chawla revealed on Friday that his resurgence in the current season meant a lot not only to him but also to his six-year-old son. "I wanted to play for my son as well because he had not seen me playing... I wanted to do something special for him," said Chawla.

NUMBER TWO

Rohit moves past de Villiers in IPL six-hitters' all-time list

Rohit Sharma surpassed A.B. de Villiers to become the second-highest six-hitter in the history of the IPL. He accomplished the feat against Gujarat Titans on Friday when he cleared the ropes twice and took his tally to 252 (de Villiers 251). Chris Gayle holds the record with 357.

OOZING CONFIDENCE

Rohit lauds Suryakumar's initiative to bat up the order

Mumbai Indians skipper Rohit Sharma lauded batter Suryakumar Yadav for his confidence. "We wanted to keep the right-left combination but he said he wanted to go in. That is the kind of confidence he has and that rubs off on others," said Rohit about Suryakumar who made an unbeaten 103 against Gujarat Titans.

Pooran's pyrotechnics, Mankad's solidity take Super Giants home

Stoinis and de Kock chip in with good knocks for the Lucknow side; Krunal takes the bowling honours for the visitors; Klaasen top scores for Sunrisers with a rapid 47 but his effort goes in vain as the bowlers fail to deliver

Stellar shows: While Mankad set the tone for the chase, Pooran's cameo sealed it for LSG. K.V.S. GIRI

IPL-16

V.S. Aravind
HYDERABAD

Nicholas Pooran rained sixes and Prerak Mankad scored an unbeaten half-century as Lucknow Super Giants beat Sunrisers Hyderabad by seven wickets with four balls to spare in an IPL match at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium on Saturday.

Chief architect

Mankad (64 n.o., 45b, 7x4, 2x6) was the chief architect of the chase and was involved in three useful partnerships to steer his side to a facile win.

The batter first forged a 42-run stand with Quinton de Kock and then a 73-run partnership with Marcus Stoinis.

However, it was the unbeaten 58-run stand with Pooran, that came in just 17 minutes, that helped Super Giants chase down a competitive target of 183.

Sunrisers kept the opposition in check for a good part of the chase. But, Pooran changed the complexion of the game by smashing Abhishek Sharma for three sixes as 31 off the 16th over.

Stoinis (40, 25b, 2x4, 3x6) had hit two sixes earlier in the over before holing out to long-off.

Super Giants needed 69 off 30 balls with a well-set Mankad at the crease.

Pooran stunned the home side with his batting pyrotechnics with one six landing in the second tier and almost smashing the broadcaster's camera. From there, Super Giants cruised home easily to move to the fourth position with 13 points.

Opting to bat first, Henrich Klaasen top-scored for Sunrisers with a brilliant 29-ball 47 to propel the innings to 182.

However, that wasn't enough as Sunrisers suffered their fifth loss at home.

SCOREBOARD

SUNRISERS HYDERABAD
Abhishek Sharma c de Kock b Yudhvir 7 *(5b, 1x4)*, Anmolpreet Singh c & b Mishra 36 *(27b, 7x4)*, Rahul Tripathi c de Kock b Yash Thakur 20 *(13b, 4x4)*, Aiden Markram st. de Kock b Krunal 28 *(20b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Heinrich Klaasen c Mankad b Avesh 47 *(29b, 3x4, 3x6)*, Glenn Phillips b Krunal 0 *(1b)*, Abdul Samad (not out) 37 *(25b, 1x4, 4x6)*, Bhuvneshwar Kumar (not out) 2 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-2, nb-1, w-2): 5; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 182.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-19 (Abhishek, 2.1 overs), 2-56 (Tripathi, 5.4), 3-82 (Anmolpreet, 8.5), 4-115 (Markram, 12.1), 5-115 (Phillips, 12.2), 6-173 (Klaasen, 18.6).

SUPER GIANTS BOWLING
Yudhvir 3-0-24-1, Mayers 1-0-11-0, Krunal 4-0-24-2, Avesh 2-0-30-1, Yash Thakur 4-0-28-1, Mishra 4-0-40-1, Bishnoi 2-0-23-0.

LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS
Quinton de Kock c Abhishek b Markande 29 *(19b, 3x4, 1x6)*, Kyle Mayers c Markram b Phillips 2 *(14b)*, Prerak Mankad (not out) 64 *(45b, 7x4, 2x6)*, Marcus Stoinis c Samad b Abhishek 40 *(25b, 2x4, 3x6)*, Nicholas Pooran (not out) 44 *(13b, 3x4, 4x6)*; Extras (lb-1, w-5): 6; Total (for three wkts. in 19.2 overs): 185.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-12 (Mayers 3.2), 2-54 (de Kock, 8.2), 3-127 (Stoinis, 15.3).

SUNRISERS BOWLING
Bhuvneshwar 4-0-30-0, Farooqi 3.2-0-32-0, Phillips 2-0-10-1, Natarajan 4-0-31-0, Markande 3-0-39-1, Abhishek 3-0-42-1.

Toss: Sunrisers; **PoM:** Mankad.
Super Giants won by seven wickets with four balls to spare.

Next assignment

SRH: May 15 vs. **GT**
Ahmedabad, 7.30 p.m.

LSG: May 16 vs. **MI**
Lucknow, 7.30 p.m.

Prabhsimran hits century; Kings knock out Capitals

Lighting up the night: Prabhsimran stole the thunder with a blistering hundred before Brar's four-for shut the door on Capitals. R.V. MOORTHY

Rakesh Rao
NEW DELHI

The now-familiar implosion returned to haunt Delhi Capitals as it was knocked out of IPL 2023 after the loss against Punjab Kings at the Ferozeshah Kotla ground here on Saturday.

Chasing a none-too-intimidating target of 168 set by Kings, Capitals tumbled from a sound 65 without loss in the PowerPlay, losing six wickets in the space of 19 runs and 30 balls, to suffer a 31-run defeat.

Warner shines, but...

David Warner's 13th half-century against Kings went in vain after he became part of the heap that included Philip Salt, Mitchell Marsh, Rilee Rossouw, Axar Patel and Manish Pandey.

Later, Aman Khan and Praveen Dubey did their bit to soften the blow before the chase ended at 136 for eight.

Before the bowlers did the job for Kings, opener Prabhsimran Singh's maiden century in the competition lifted the team from 66 for three in 10 overs.

After watching Shikhar Dhawan, Liam Livingstone and Jitesh Sharma depart in the PowerPlay, which produced 46 runs, Prabhsimran chose his time to counter-attack. His 65-ball 103 was dotted with 10 fours and six sixes.

On the attack

In the 11th over, bowled by Mitchell Marsh, Prabhsimran hit 6, 6, 4 in succession in a 21-run over and injected the much-needed momentum. He added 72 with Sam Curran for the fourth wicket to keep Kings on course of setting a challenging target. In this resurrecting stand, Curran's contribution was 20 off 24 balls but it was important for Kings that he kept Prabhsimran company.

Despite Curran's struggle, 71 runs came between the 7th and 15th overs and another 50 in the last five overs to leave Capitals with a target of 168.

The quicker scoring rate in the second part of the innings – 101 runs in the last 10 overs – ensured Kings had something to defend.

The bowlers then struck after the PowerPlay to keep alive Kings' slender hopes of making the playoffs.

Final week of league phase

May 15	GT vs SRH	Ahmedabad	7:30 P.M.
May 16	LSG vs MI	Lucknow	7:30 P.M.
May 17	PBKS vs DC	Dharmasala	7:30 P.M.
May 18	SRH vs RCB	Hyderabad	7:30 P.M.
May 19	PBKS vs RR	Dharmasala	7:30 P.M.
May 20	DC vs CSK	Delhi	3:30 P.M.
May 20	KKR vs LSG	Kolkata	7:30 P.M.
May 21	MI vs SRH	Mumbai	3:30 P.M.
May 21	RCB vs GT	Bengaluru	7:30 P.M.

SCOREBOARD

PUNJAB KINGS
Prabhsimran Singh b Mukesh 103 *(65b, 10x4, 6x6)*, Shikhar Dhawan c Rossouw b Ishant 7 *(5b, 1x6)*, Liam Livingstone b Ishant 4 *(5b, 1x4)*, Jitesh Sharma b Axar 5 *(5b, 1x4)*, Sam Curran c Aman b Dubey 20 *(24b, 1x4)*, Harpreet Brar c Marsh b Kuldeep 2 *(5b)*, Shahrukh Khan run out 2 *(4b)*, Sikandar Raza (not out) 11 *(7b, 1x6)*, Rishi Dhawan (not out) 0 *(0b)*; Extras (lb-2, w-11): 13; Total (for seven wkts. in 20 overs): 167.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-10 (Dhawan, 1.2 overs), 2-32 (Livingstone, 4.1), 3-45 (Jitesh, 5.4), 4-117 (Curran, 14.4), 5-129 (Brar, 16.1), 6-154 (Prabhsimran, 18.2), 7-165 (Shahrukh, 19.5).

CAPITALS BOWLING
Khaleel 4-0-36-0, Ishant 3-0-27-2, Axar 4-0-27-1, Dubey 3-0-19-1, Kuldeep 4-0-32-1, Marsh 1-0-21-0, Mukesh 1-0-3-1.

DELHI CAPITALS
David Warner lbw b Brar 54 *(27b, 10x4, 1x6)*, Phil Salt b Brar 21 *(17b, 3x4)*, Mitchell Marsh lbw b Rahul Chahar 3 *(4b)*, Rilee Rossouw c Sikandar b Brar 5 *(5b, 1x4)*, Axar Patel lbw b Rahul Chahar 1 *(2b)*, Manish Pandey **(Impact Player in place of Khaleel)** b Brar 0 *(3b)*, Aman Khan c Brar b Ellis 16 *(18b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Praveen Dubey b Ellis 16 *(20b, 2x4)*, Kuldeep Yadav (not out) 10 *(17b)*, Mukesh Kumar (not out) 6 *(7b)*; Extras (lb-1, w-3): 4; Total (for eight wkts. in 20 overs): 136.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-69 (Salt, 6.2), 2-74 (Marsh, 7.2), 3-81 (Rossouw, 8.1), 4-86 (Warner, 8.6), 5-86 (Axar, 9.1), 6-88 (Pandey, 10.1), 7-118 (Aman, 15.4), 8-123 (Dubey, 17.2).

PUNJAB KINGS BOWLING
Rishi 1-0-10-0, Curran 2-0-18-0, Brar 4-0-30-4, Ellis **(Impact Player in place of Prabhsimran)** 4-0-26-2, Arshdeep 4-0-32-0, Rahul Chahar 4-0-16-2, Sikandar 1-0-3-0.

Toss: Capitals.
PoM: Prabhsimran.
Kings won by 31 runs.

Next assignment

May 17: PBKS vs. DC
Dharamsala, 7.30 p.m.

Royals and Royal Challengers desperate to stay in the hunt, face off in crucial contest

Lalith Kalidas
JAIPUR

With the setting sun on Sunday, either Rajasthan Royals or Royal Challengers Bangalore will topple the other in the IPL-16 playoffs race at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium here.

A defeat could prove fatal for Sanju Samson's men, who would then finish below the predicted 16-point cut-off. Wading through another middling campaign, RCB's hopes will also hit a wall if it errs against RR on a day when temperatures may hit mid-40 degrees Celsius.

Buoyed by its nine-wicket win over Kolkata Knight Riders after Yashasvi Jaiswal's glittering 98 n.o. and Yuzvendra Chahal's four-wicket haul, Royals will be keen to finish its home stretch with a victory after three defeats in four previous matches.

While run-scoring has fluctuated on turners and belters at the ground, captain Samson's return to form has restored faith in the RR top-order.

Meanwhile, RCB is suffering from familiar woes: a misfiring middle-order and bowlers losing form at a crucial phase. Pace spearhead Mohammed Siraj would believe his two-match wicketless streak was just an aberration.

RCB will want captain Faf du Plessis' prolific run to continue against the most effective (40 wickets) spin attack of the league, with Virat Kohli and Glenn Maxwell also stepping up in the 'royal' challenge.

On a high: Kohli coming good augurs well for RCB. PTI

TODAY'S MATCHES

Jaipur, 3.30 p.m.
HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: 28
RR 12 | RCB 14 | NR 2
PREVIOUS MEETING
RCB won by seven runs, 2023

Chennai, 7.30 p.m.
HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: 27
CSK 18 | KKR 9
PREVIOUS MEETING
CSK won by 49 runs, 2023

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD) & JIO CINEMA APP

Points Table

	M	W	L	NR	PTS	NRR
Gujarat Titans	12	8	4	0	16	0.761
Chennai Super Kings	12	7	4	1	15	0.493
Mumbai Indians	12	7	5	0	14	-0.117
Lucknow Super Giants	12	6	5	1	13	0.309
Rajasthan Royals	12	6	6	0	12	0.633
Punjab Kings	12	6	6	0	12	-0.268
Royal Challengers	11	5	6	0	10	-0.345
Kolkata Knight Riders	12	5	7	0	10	-0.357
Sunrisers Hyderabad	11	4	7	0	8	-0.471
Delhi Capitals (E)	12	4	8	0	8	-0.686

After the DC-PBKS match on May 13 — E: Eliminated

A BG-BGE

INBRIEF

Lying third, Aditi Ashok eyes historic win on LPGA Tour

Aditi Ashok moved up to tied third and within one shot of the lead at the 2023 Cognizant Founders Cup in Clifton (New Jersey) as she bids to become the first Indian to win on the LPGA Tour. Aditi was 7-under 137 and one shot behind co-leaders Australian Sara Kemp (65) and Korea's Jin Young Ko (68).

Garcia sent packing in Rome by qualifier Osorio

Caroline Garcia became the latest big hitter to be dumped out the Italian Open after the World No. 4 lost 6-4, 6-4 to outsider Camila Osorio. On a soaking day in Rome, qualifier Osorio almost broke down in tears after her shock straight-sets victory over Garcia, a two-time doubles winner at the French Open. A career-best win for Osorio puts her in the last 16 of a WTA 1000 event for the first time in her career. Sixth-seeded Andrey Rublev, meanwhile, beat Alex Molcan 6-3, 6-4.

The results: Men: Second round: Rublev bt Molcan 6-3, 6-4. **Women: Third round**: Xiyu bt Townsend 6-2, 0-6, 7-5; Osorio bt Garcia 6-4, 6-4; Kalinina bt Kenin 6-4, 6-2.

LIVE TELECAST

Badminton: Sudirman Cup, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 a.m. & 2.30 p.m.

Ireland vs Bangladesh: 3rd ODI, FanCode, 3.15 p.m.

IPL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 3.30 & 7.30 p.m.

Serie A: Jio Cinema App, 4 p.m.; Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 6.30, 9.30 p.m. & 12.15 a.m. (Monday)

LaLiga: Jio Cinema App, 5.30 p.m.; Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.45, 10 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Monday)

Premier League: SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 6.30 & 9 p.m.

Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 7 & 9 p.m.

CSK up against KKR, looks to consolidate

Dhoni's men have the upper hand, having won 18 of the last 27 meetings between the two sides

Success formula! Dhoni, whose batting has been sensational at the death, could be sharing a tip or two with Rayudu during practice. R. RAGU

IPL-16

Ayan Acharya
CHENNAI

Chennai Super Kings has little to complain about after a great IPL 2023 campaign so far, but will have to be wary of a volatile Kolkata Knight Riders outfit in its last home game of the league stage on Sunday.

CSK has had the upper hand over KKR, having won 18 of the last 27 meetings between them.

Kolkata must be feeling the after-effects of the brutal takedown by Yashasvi Jaiswal just three nights ago.

Meanwhile, Super Kings reaffirmed their status as title contenders with a 27-run win over the Delhi Capitals at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium. The surface used for that match was a traditional slow pitch.

With the league stage now winding to a close, expect Sunday's wicket to play similarly. Any score higher than 170 could end up being a winning total.

Dhoni has been sensational for CSK at the death, smacking 78 off 35 against fast bowlers in seven innings. He has been relatively quiet against spin, collecting 18 off 12.

Varun Chakravarthy has dismissed Dhoni three times in four innings, with the latter averaging 3.66 against him. KKR could consider holding back an over of Varun for the death. A win will push CSK closer to a playoff spot. Knight Riders, who have won three of their last five, need to depend on other results going in their favour.

Bopanna & Ebden in last 16

Sports Bureau

Seventh seeds Rohan Bopanna and Matthew Ebden reached the pre-quarterfinals with a 6-3, 7-6(6) win over Federico Arnaboldi and Gianmarco Ferrari in the €8,637, 966 ATP tennis in Rome on Saturday.

Other results: €73,000 Challenger, Francavilla al Mare, Italy: Doubles (semifinals): Nicolas Barrientos (Col) & Ariel Behar (Uru) bt Luca Margaroli (Sui) & Purav Raja 6-3, 6-4.
$15,000 ITF women, Monastir, Tunisia: Doubles (semifinals): Salma Drugdova & Katarina Kuzmova (Svk) bt Sharmada Balu & Lucie Wargnier (Fra) 7-6(4), 6-4.

We will just look to do what we can, one ball at a time: Simons

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

Chennai Super Kings bowling consultant Eric Simons said the team was not taking additional pressure in its final home league fixture against Kolkata Knight Riders on Sunday.

"Every game is important, but we have always tried to ensure we don't get caught up in a particular game or moment.

"Obviously, the consequences of Sunday's game are significant as you can secure one of the top two spots. But if we get caught up in that, it adds stress and complicates life," said Simons.

"We will just look to do what we can, one ball at a time. Every team has strengths and players who can beat you on their day," he added.

Perfect foil: Jadeja complemented Dhoni as the duo went hard at the Capitals attack in the earlier match. R. RAGU

Aggressive approach

In the previous game against Delhi Capitals, Super Kings adopted an aggressive approach while batting first.

Asked if that would continue, Simons said: "Conditions override planning. We will have our plan in place, but if we get there on the day and it's different, we have to adapt."

Bangladesh wins last-over thriller against Ireland

Associated Press
CHELMSFORD (ENGLAND)

Mushfiqur Rahim finished the chase that Najmul Hossain Shanto started for Bangladesh to win a thrilling ODI against Ireland in the last over at Chelmsford, England.

The scores: Ireland 319/6 in 45 overs (Harry Tector 140, George Dockrell 74 n.o.) lost to Bangladesh 320/7 in 44.3 overs (Najmul Hossain Shanto 117, Towhid Hridoy 68, Mushfiqur Rahim 36 n.o.). (*Bangladesh beats Ireland by three wickets with three balls to spare, leads three-match series 1-0*).

Grant Bradburn.
REUTERS

Bradburn appointed Pakistan's head coach

Associated Press
ISLAMABAD

Former New Zealand international Grant Bradburn was appointed as Pakistan's head coach on a two-year contract on Saturday.

The 56-year-old Bradburn had been serving as Pakistan's interim head coach during the white-ball home series against New Zealand.

Neeraj Chopra to take part in FBK Games on June 4

ATHLETICS

Sports Bureau

A season-opening title in his kitty earlier this month, Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra will be in action at the Fanny Blankers-Koen Games at Hengelo in the Netherlands on June 4.

The 25-year-old had won the Doha leg of Diamond League Meeting series on May 5 with a world-leading throw of 88.67m.

The FBK Games, a World Athletics Continental Tour Gold level meet, takes its name from Fanny Blankers-Koen, who won four gold medals at the 1948 Olympic Games in London, England.

Neeraj.
TWITTER/FBKGAMESHENGELO

Neeraj, the reigning Diamond League champion, is set to face reigning World champion Anderson Peters again, which will be the second meeting in one month between the world's top two javelin throwers.

Peters had finished third in Doha with a best throw of 85.88m, while Olympic silver medallist Jakub Vadlejch of Czech Republic was second with 88.63m.

Last year, Neeraj finished second behind Peters in the World Championships in USA and the duo are set to continue their rivalry this year also.

Chopra, who is currently training at Antalya in Turkey, will also take part in the Ostrava Golden Spike event in Czech Republic, another World Athletics Continental Tour Gold level meet, on June 27.

India bests Hong Kong to finish fifth

Sports Bureau

Rethin Pranav and Kriish Tyagi won their singles matches to help India beat Hong Kong 2-0 in the match for the fifth place in the Asia-Oceania Junior Davis Cup under-16 tennis tournament in Shymkent, Kazakhstan, on Saturday.

Japan triumphs

Japan beat Korea 2-0 in the final to emerge the champion. Host Kazakhstan, Thailand apart from Japan and Korea qualified for the World Group competition to be staged in Europe.

The results: Fifth place: India bt Hong Kong 2-0 (Rethin Pranav bt Ngai Hoi Cheung 6-2, 6-0; Kriish Tyagi bt Jacob Shen 7-5, 6-3).

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Aniketh bats well in Six Cricket Academy's victory

Aniketh Reddy top-scored with 76 as Six Cricket Academy defeated Just Cricket Academy by six wickets in the Tiger Cup under-16 trophy here on Saturday.

The scores: Just Cricket Academy 150/9 in 30 overs (Devanjan 66) lost to Six Cricket Academy 156/4 in 25 overs (Aniketh Reddy 76).
RKCA 105 in 28.5 overs (Nischay Savanth 28, Suhaan 3/28, K.S. Mokhit 3/22) lost to Gopalan 107/2 in 12.4 overs (Bhuvan 48).

Kickstart signs off IWL group stage with thumping win

Kickstart FC finished the group stage of the ongoing Indian Women's League (IWL) with a dominating 9-0 win over Central Reserve Police Force FC at Ahmedabad on Saturday. Kickstart will meet HOPS FC in the quarterfinals on Tuesday.

The result:
Kickstart FC 9 (Saru Limbu 2, 28, Laishram Bibicha Devi 5, 34, Sushmita Lepcha 24, Astam Oraon 56, Tanu (OG) 72, Dalima Chibber 88, Laishram Rejiya Devi 90+1) bt Central Reserve Police Force FC 0.